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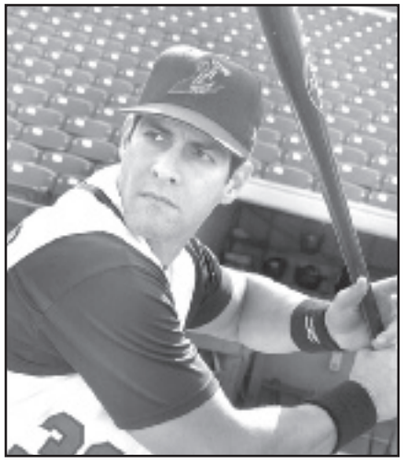
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Old Dogs, New Kicks

The past is a lie, and the future is unknowable – but we think it has something to do with the Internet

BY LOUIS BLACK

Surfing into the *Chronicle*'s 25th anniversary and the fall season finds this week's column running short. Yet again, I want to reiterate that a major *Chronicle* priority for the foreseeable future is to have our online edition mature into its own identity. Making the Web edition interactive is crucial to this task. There are any number of reasons why this is true, but the primary one is that it is part of our core mission to make it easier for people to interact with, and thus participate in, the *Chronicle*.

The *Chronicle* is a publication of opinions. Certainly, I hope our reporting is both fair and complete. However, objectivity or disinterested reporting are positions to which this publication does not pretend (forget that I really believe those terms invariably need to be heavily qualified).

The *Chronicle* Web site's home page now prominently features a link to *Chronicle* Forums (**austinchronicle.com/forum**).

In order to participate in forums, you do not have to register; there is no password to remember. You can post and/or respond to articles and posts immediately. Already it is much easier for you, our readers, to offer up your opinions on national, state, and/or local politics, and likewise your take on Austin, music, arts, theatre, food, restaurants, dance, books, and so on. You can comment on some piece in the *Chronicle*, add your thoughts to an ongoing discussion, and/or initiate completely new topics.

Rather than make declarations or offer concrete proclamations, the *Chronicle* is designed to stir thought and raise debate. In Austin, where there is almost no thought without a counterthought (almost always, in fact, armies of diverse counterthoughts), dialogue and debate are like breathing.

From last week: "Please make the extra effort and help prime the pump. Read through the forums of interest to you, post comments, and offer replies. Sure it's in a very early stage, but over time, we are hoping that this should mature into an ongoing, open, and open-ended community dialogue."

Last week, the second section of this column began by stating, "In the next couple of weeks I want to return to talking about some major ideas that drive this column. On the way there I want to offer some assumptions that are basic to my overall arguments." No claim was made, and none will be, that these ideas are innovative or original; rather, they represent my core beliefs as well as I can explain them.

The second major idea was: "The past is not just a fiction but a lie, the present is misunderstood, and the future is unknowable." A letter writer attacked this, substituting the word "history" for "past" and finding a Henry Ford quotation – "History is bunk" – as a way, I think, of mocking and discrediting my position. Having a thought, or even a body of thoughts, tainted because one shares the same ideas with someone else, especially if you offer mostly quite divergent opinions, is relatively meaningless. I was surprised the writer couldn't find a quote from Hitler saying the same thing.

As to the point I was getting at, well, it has little to do with history. As I wrote in the June 9 "Page Two" column:

"The past is more than a fiction; it is a lie.

"People are constantly lamenting how this nation and the world have changed for the worse. This is reactionary romanticism, a pasteurized, homogenized, idealized Dick-and-Jane version of America's past – when doors were left unlocked, families went to worship together, and towns looked like Norman Rockwell as rendered by Currier and Ives. At some point I will go into this much more."

The point is that the remembered and/or romanticized past, especially as deployed in support of opinions and/or policies, is not necessarily a historically based strategy. Rather, it can be very much the opposite, utilizing select "pasteurized, homogenized, idealized" memories, often invalid even in and of themselves, to support positions which are, at best, ahistorical, being bigoted and based on prejudices.

This is true of almost all arguments that champion the past over the present.

Yes, when I lived in Vermont in the early 1970s, not only could you leave your house unlocked, you could leave your keys in the car as well. This is no longer true. It is also the case that, at that time, there was precious little work to be found in Vermont, an increasingly poor state offering almost no creative or employment opportunities for anyone, especially the young. This, too, has changed.

A while back, I attended a speech at a monthly club dinner where people were decrying the current quality of media news, lamenting the kind of fearless, objective reporting that had helped make this nation great. Share the drugs! This isn't true. The history of American newspapers throughout much of the last century was one of slanted and limited coverage. Almost every major urban area had at least two daily papers, usually representing opposing points of view. Many of the standards accepted today didn't exist then, and I wouldn't be surprised if many of the most easily remembered great newspaper reporters of the past participated in activities now regarded as unacceptable: condensing quotes, making up quotes, offering composite characters, aggressively slanting the news to fit a specific political agenda. Papers were expected to advocate, offering outright partisan positions – and not just on the editorial pages. Consider how much legislation and how many judicial rulings have been responses to the influence of the media in tainting potential jurors.

There is a book, which I have not read, that laments the radically shrinking popularity of what were once widely enjoyed and shared communal activities, such as bowling. First, remember that bowling leagues mostly represented fairly homogeneous social, economic, racial, and employment groups. Currently, the Web has absolutely busted open interpersonal communication to the point where it is dramatically less limited by geography and class. The loss is not one of community but simply of a known, established tradition to the unknown future – and to the most aggressively democratic communication forum yet to exist. Yes, the Web's ramifications and its cultural resonance are still to be discovered, but using the past as a way of considering the Web is like restricting and criticizing micro-electronics because they exceed Stone Age expectations.

And again, more on this later. ■

Oops! Last week's "Psst! Wanna buy some (slightly ruined) eight-liners?" mistakenly said, "Police say the machines were finally moved to indoor storage late last week." The machines were actually still outside. The *Chronicle* regrets the error.







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POSTMARKS

Early Halloween Cover?

Dear Editor,

Re: "Grandma" ["She's Her Own Grandma," News, July 28]: Why so early with the Halloween cover this year?

Tim Lyon
Bainbridge Island, Wash.

Facts vs. Lies

Dear Editor,

In his latest rant contained in "The Hightower Report" [July 14], wee Jim claimed, and I quote, "There are 7.3 million Americans working for minimum wage. Another 8.2 million of us are paid only a dollar or less above the minimum." Point one, "Us" Jim? You get minimum wage? You're overpaid. But the fact is he lied, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, **www.bls.gov/cps/minwage2004.htm**, Characteristics of Minimum Wage Workers: 2004: "According to Current Population Survey estimates for 2004, some 73.9 million American workers were paid at hourly rates, representing 59.8% of all wage and salary workers. 1) Of those paid by the hour, 520,000 were reported as earning exactly $5.15, the prevailing federal minimum wage, and another 1.5 million were reported earning wages below the minimum. 2) Together, these 2.0 million workers with wages at or below the minimum made up 2.7% of all hourly-paid workers."

Five hundred twenty-thousand compared to Hightower's deliberate lie of 7.3 million. A few years ago, Hightower claimed that President Bush had spent, in one year, more than $7 trillion. What he didn't mention was it was "projected revenues," not money in the bank, and that year, the federal budget was $2 trillion. But hey, Hightower and facts are like oil and water.

Carl Swanson

[Jim Hightower responds: Gosh, to be called "wee" by such a giant intellect as Carl – is it an insult ... or honor? But, yes Carl, I use the term "us" because I believe in the great American ethic of "we're all in this together." Just because I make more than minimum wage doesn't mean that I disassociate myself from the plight of those who do. America is "us" – though maybe Carl doesn't care to be included. By the way, 82% of Americans say raising the minimum wage is an important priority, and only 6% oppose raising it.]

My People Were Here

Dear Editor,

Re: The Back Room article ["Welcome to the Jungle," News, July 28]: I really liked your article, 'twas a good read, you know. I guess all good things come to an end (Liberty Lunch, Sound Exchange, the Cavity, etc.) but it almost seemed that every time I ended up at the Back Room there was this twinge in the (h)air, some kind of feeling of "nothing can hurt me," almost a "my people are here, I can't be touched," and I never really dressed the part. Well I had the jeans with holes in the knee and most likely an Exodus or Slayer shirt but just never did the glam thing, but those people were the metaphorical family that I'd see on the weekends and such. Oh and before I forget, I started to write this because you mentioned you were in Zero Tolerance and you did a show on KTSB (RIP). I actually have the flier for the KTSB Underground Metal Onslaught at the Back Room. Bands included the likes of Agony Column, Civais, Dread, and you guys. Didn't get to that one though, and man, KTSB, we would stay up after *Headbangers Ball* and call in and request all kinds of shit. I could safely say that KTSB (and access television) are responsible for a good 80% of any of the "off" music I got into – the true metal shit, weird crap like Crust and Butthole Surfers, all the Ministry, Skinny Puppy, RevCo shit. KTSB fed me up until and well into KVRX, and now I do my little radio stint on KAOS959.com or on the dial if you're lucky (95.9FM and 92.7FM). Let's get back to the subject: the Back Room article. The only flaw was not one word about the whole Ed Hall, Fuckemos scene. I miss that obnoxious, bottom-heavy noise that came and went. There's a little bit out there now (Gorch Fock, Castle Siege, Assacre) *but not enough*! I'm done now, thanx for your time and thanx for the reading material.

Billy Boykin

Time to Rethink Energy

Dear Editor,

Re: "There Goes the Sun" [News, July 28]: Dan Mottola's story is a good piece of solid reporting. I have watched the development of solar for a good 40 years, and I can't believe the same benighted lack of vision is still slanting our perception and hampering efforts to turn this country's misuse of energy around. The ignorance of the affluent and their lack of social responsibility as indicated by McMansions with four furnaces and six air-conditioning units tells me they do not and perhaps cannot comprehend that we all have an obligation not to leave our children saddled with a crushing enslavement to an energy system designed to benefit only our energy aristocracy.

Art Ragusa

Why Run Willie Nelson Photo?

Dear Editor,

I just read the article by Dan Mottola announcing Austin's transition into the "biodiesel big league" ["Austin Reaches Biodiesel Big Leagues," News, July 28]. Despite the headlining photo of Willie Nelson, which seems to appear atop every biodiesel-related story in your paper, I was unable to find any mention of the man in the actual article.

Seems to me that it would have made a lot more sense to include a picture from the event about which the article was written.

Robert Plenge

[Associate News Editor Lee Nichols responds: That would have been our preference, but unfortunately, we did not have a professional photographer availabe for the event; since we desired to illustrate the story in a way that would be eye-catching and draw readers into the story, we went with the Willie photo.]

Celebrity Instead of Facts

To the editor,

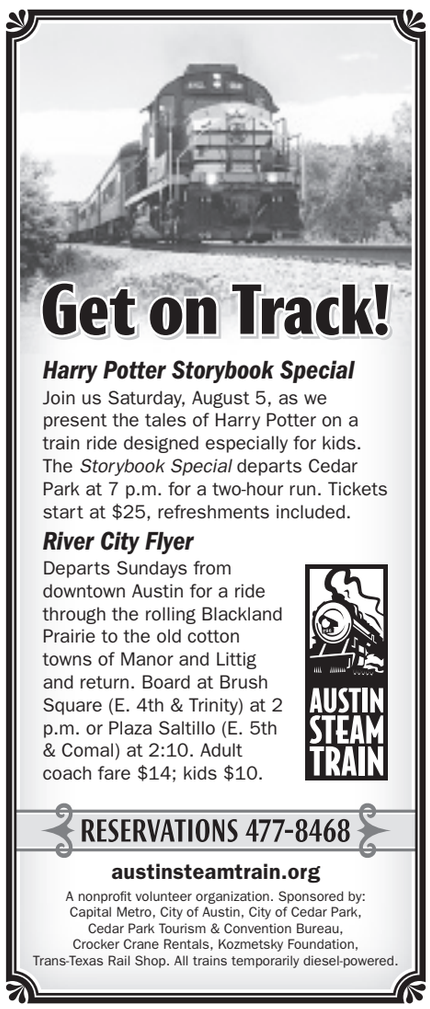
I was disappointed to find the *Chronicle* following the lead of the *Statesman*, KXAN, and probably others by promoting Willie Nelson's biodiesel and barely giving lip service to the real stuff

continued on p.10

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["Austin Reaches Biodiesel Big Leagues," News, July 28]. Willie Nelson B20 is 80% conventional petroleum-based diesel fuel. Eco-Wise sells 99% biodiesel. Rather a major difference, folks! While the article mentioned in passing the availability of 99%-pure biodiesel, it didn't say where it is sold. I buy mine at Eco-Wise on Elizabeth Street and am happy to report *no* difference in how my truck runs apart from greatly reduced smoke and odor. Obviously Willie Nelson's name means more to the *Chronicle* than ecological considerations.

Donald E. Lewis
Don's Automotive

[Dan Mottola responds: Donald Lewis is correct about the difference between Willie's B20 and the 99% and 100% biodiesel Austin Biofuels sells at two locations here in town. While no one disputes that B99 or B100 is better for our environment and our oil jones than B20, the point of the article was that Austin has the most B20 pumps in the nation, and 20% biodiesel is better than no biodiesel at all. Austin Biofuels sells B99 or B100 at Eco-Wise, 110 W. Elizabeth and at Alternate Fuel Systems, 2027 Anchor Ln. While Willie Nelson has become the poster boy for the biodiesel industry, his organization is responsible for supplying only one of Austin's now 33 total biodiesel pumps. The other 32 are thanks to Austin Biofuels and Triple S Petroleum. See **www.austinbiofuels.com** *for a full list.]*

austinchronicle.com/postmarks
UPDATED DAILY

Ludicrously False Statements

Howdy y'all,

So, Louis Black says he has "some major ideas" that drive his column ["Page Two," July 28]. Some of those ideas (I will just paraphrase them) are: "The past is ... a lie, the present is misunderstood, and the future is unknowable."

I think Mr. Black has handed his readers a load of bunk (with the word "bunk" defined as – making ludicrously false statements).

Are we to believe that these major ideas sprang full-grown from Mr. Black's head in a recent burst of intellectual insight? Or, wouldn't it be ironic, if he just borrowed these ideas from the past?

May 25, 1916, Henry Ford: "History is more or less bunk." At the time Ford said it, he was thought by many to be a "bigot and a tyrant." Another view of Ford: "There is plenty to detest about Henry Ford – his racism and anti-Semitism just for a start." And as someone else once pointed out, "He [Ford] suddenly became a great 'historical philanthropist,' when it was a matter of preserving his own personal history [at Greenfield Village]."

Perhaps Mr. Black did not borrow his ideas from that far back in history. Maybe, just maybe, he only went back as far as 1987. That was when Sting came up with the song "History Will Teach Us Nothing" from the *Nothing Like the Sun* album.

Or, could it be, that Mr. Black went as far back as the 1800s? That is when Matthew Arnold wrote, "On the breast of that huge Mississippi of falsehood called History, a foam-bell more or less is no consequence."

As for the truth about Mr. Black's "I" versus "You" ideas, you might want to go here: **www.chemistrycoach.com/truth.htm**.

Best regards,
Rick Hall

Another Inconvenient Truth

Dear Editor,

I went to see *An Inconvenient Truth* lately out at the Arbor Cinema [Film Listings, June 2]. It was a great movie and recommend it to all.

The most inconvenient part of the whole thing was we had to drive our car out to see it. Let's get a better transit system in Austin!

Martin Thomen

Culture's Priorities Twisted

Dear Editor,

I am not a smoker, and I completely agree with Michael Ventura's "Got a Light?" column ["Letters @ 3am," July 21]. We live in a culture where our priorities about what we fear are twisted. For example, he mentions auto fumes as being as dangerous as secondhand smoke. Also, about 48,000 Americans are killed each year by our favorite form of transportation: the automobile. This exceeds, by far, rail or other modes of public transportation currently in use here and around the world. We are more afraid of terrorists who kill and maim far less of us than the very car we sit in each day!

Oh well, we must get to work, and we certainly wouldn't want to be driven by someone else, even if statistically that would be safer. By the way, air pollution kills about 3 million annually. Life and death: What are we afraid of?

Paul Habib

The Stuffed Pork Loin

Dear Editor,

Man, I have to say, I really enjoy most everything about Woody's South. Good food, good music, good time! The only thing I regret is that they took the Chorizo Stuffed Pork Loin off the menu. To die for.

Cheri Hartman

More Information, Fewer Laws

Dear Editor,

According to APD and DPS records, about 12,000 crashes occur on Austin's streets every year – an average of more than 30 per day. There are about 12,000 injuries and 60 deaths on Austin's streets every year. And we see almost none of this in the news. If we got a daily crash report, with locations, circumstances, time of day, cost of damages, and description of injuries, we would all be well-informed of the risks involved in each mode of transportation and could make decisions accordingly.

Motorcycles represent about 2% of road traffic. Nationally, there were 4,008 motorcycle deaths in 2004, out of 42,636 road-crash deaths. Bicycles, which are thought to be about 1% of road traffic, accounted for 725 deaths in 2004. Motorcycle deaths declined sharply from 4,566 in 1986 to 2,116 in 1997, then rose sharply over the next seven years to 4,008 in 2004. The national speed limit was deregulated in December 1995, and state speed limits on highways rose soon thereafter. Pedestrian and bicycling deaths rose and fell, but basically declined from 1986 through 2004. These are U.S. government figures, available from **www.nhtsa.gov**.

Local numbers are harder to get. Texas DPS told an information seeker that all records before 1997 had been destroyed. This seems crazy. How can we plan for the future if we don't know the past?

In the absence of widely disseminated crash information, an adult helmet law for bicyclists but not for motorcyclists will lead people to believe, erroneously, that bicycling is more dangerous than motorcycling. Instead of arbitrary rules, adults need enough information to make

continued on p.12

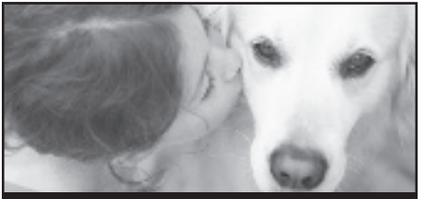
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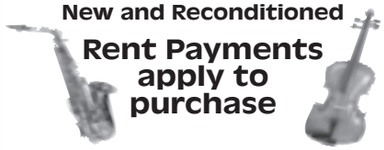
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We purchased the entire inventory of a large Houston music store.

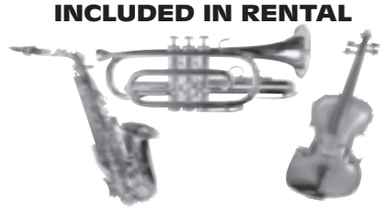
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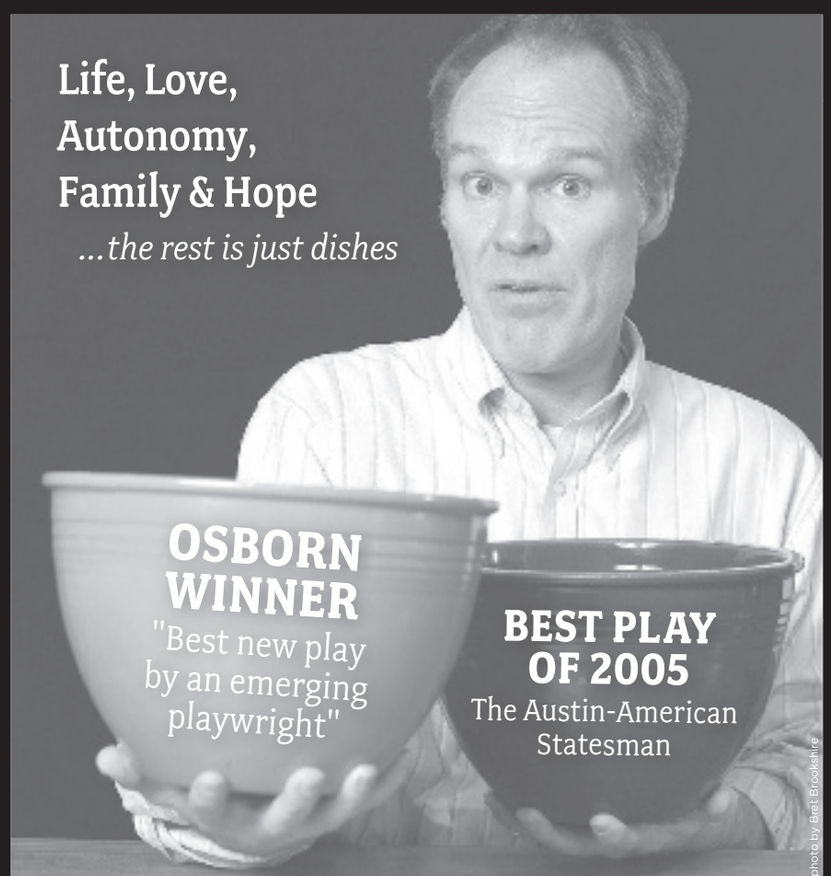


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wise decisions. Instead of an adult bicycle-helmet law, how about information on Austin's annual 12,000 crashes?

Yours truly,
Amy Babich

What Logical Connection Between 9/11 and Iraq?

Dear Editor,

Kudos to you for printing Vance McDonald's critical letter in your July 14 issue ["Postmarks"].

Mr. McDonald, I implore you to elucidate the argument which would lead "any rational person" to understand the strategic connection between September 11 and the present Iraq war. From my perspective, I'm afraid, there appears to be no sufficient connection between the two, outside the rather grim logic of political and economic expediency.

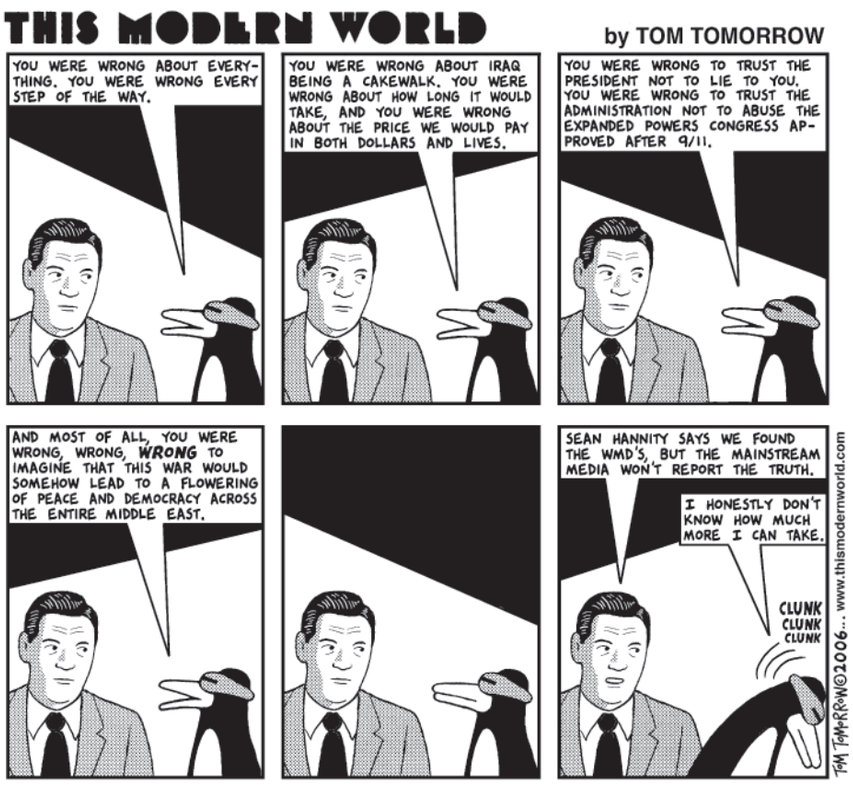
Sincerely,
Sean Ragan

Think About Adding Bike Racks

Dear Austin business owners,

Rising gas prices are driving more of your customers (pardon the pun) to ride their bikes to your establishments. It's easy to see that a lot of Austinites enjoy riding their bikes. It would be nice if you could accommodate and reward such good behavior by providing bike racks. Some of my favorite places do not have bike racks, such as the Austin Diner and Dart Bowl. It's a real drag wandering around looking for a place to lock up and may ultimately be a factor in choosing a business to patronize. Nothing fancy ... just a secure bar embedded in concrete will do. Thanks from your nonmotorized patrons.

Lili Lytle



The Great Gene Clark

Dear Editor,

Just read the Louis Black article on Gene Clark ["The True One," Music, June 30]. That was some of the most beautiful and insightful music analysis I have ever read. I had chills at the end. As a fan of Mr. Clark and this genre, I just wanted to let Mr. Black know and thank him for shining some light on a great, underrated artist.

All the best,
Al Engberg
Newark, Del.

Wants More Knowledge on Development

To the editor,

This note is really to the City Council and mayor or any citizen who can answer this question: Why, in the face of water-rationing, are you allowing four or more hotels to be built, not to mention continuing building of homes? Especially hotels, which are well-known consumers of huge amounts of water. I'll appreciate more knowledge on this subject.

Linalice Carey

Hope Austin Survives Growth

Dear Editor,

I'm writing regarding the current situation on Congress with Las Manitas and Tesoros, as well as the other businesses in that particular block and building.

I especially loved the comments by the 10-year-old in one of your recent editions; it makes a lot of sense to me ["My Migas, My City," News, July 21].

Just curious if there is any way to make it a "historical" site, which would eliminate the issue of tearing it down. Being the developer, I would also be cautious about forcing out a whole block that is so diverse, especially with all that's going on in that realm at the moment. I hope the store owners are and have also been made aware of this reality and their legal rights, as well.

And, while I know Austin is moving in a new direction, isn't it also necessary to keep a few remnants of the past in order to protect both the present and the future? Just a thought.

As for me, I lived in Austin in its heyday in the mid-Nineties, my husband in the late Seventies and early Eighties, and while we visit each

continued on p.14

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spring, it is always a new experience with missing favorites of yesterday and a new skyline. I only hope that Austin can survive its own growth in future time, especially with all the glass in all the buildings being built on a fault line. Just a thought. Cheers, Austin – cheers!

Sharla Shotwell
Arcata, Calif.

Unqualified to Be Governor

Dear Editor,

Re: Carole Keeton Strayhorn ["She's Her Own Grandma," News, July 28]: Anyone whose spawn is the decerebrate ignoramus Scott McClellan or whose mother's milk nourished the crypto-Christian marionette Dr. Mark McClellan is unqualified by intellect and temperament from being governor of this great state.

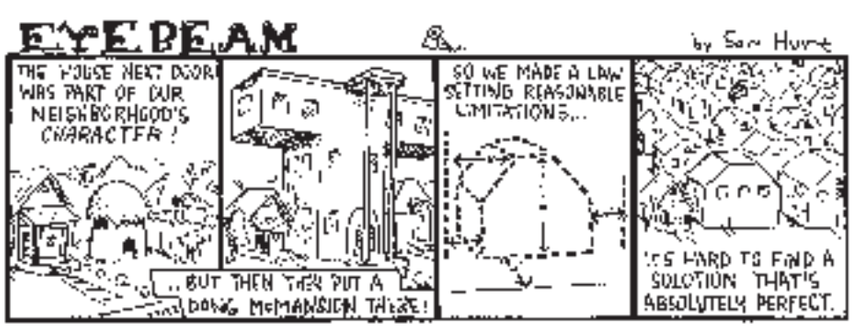
Howard R. Slobodin

More Than a Restaurant

Dear Editor,

Re: Las Manitas ["My Migas, My City," News, July 21]: All utility aside, as one of Austin's best Mexican breakfast, brunch, and lunch sites, Cynthia and Lidia Pérez have created a [cultural community] on Congress. Manitas supports La Pena art gallery, and the gallery exposes more Latino youth and others in Austin to Latino artists in addition to studio-art workshops and outreach for kids who may not have the cash resources to explore creativity on their own. And, ahead of all those beastly corporate entities that ignore the need for employee child care, Cynthia and Lidia both realized parents can't work at Manitas without a place for their kids to go, ergo Escuelita del Alma. They continue to set standards that multibillion-dollar corporations have yet to even consider. And, they are role models for women and other Latinos in Austin trying to leave a positive imprint on this city and world. I started *Latinitas* magazine and outreach with Alicia Rascon more than three years ago, and on more than one occasion, the ladies of Las Manitas have stepped up, assured, and reminded us that what we are doing is valuable, through support, space, and other donations. That kind of mentoring is priceless. That city block in Austin is not just real estate; it is a beacon of Latino representation and role-modeling in this city that "talks" a lot about being sensitive to diversity. I implore Austin to stand behind that rhetoric.

Laura Donnelly



What Happened?

Dear Editor,

It only makes sense that we are spending needless money on banning a weed ["The Hightower Report," July 21]. Christ, I don't even smoke anymore, but if you want to, I say do it. But outside a bar? Who comes up with these stupid ideas. How embarrassing for us as a country. What happened to freedom? What happened to having privacy? Oh yes, now that we are over 30 we can't trust ourselves or anyone.

Michal Thomas

It's Very Dangerous Right Now

Dear Editor,

Despite insistence from our right-wing media and government that Israel is targeting Hezbollah and rocket sites alone, the facts speak of a much different reality.

The UK's *Guardian* reported that early estimates of the damage to Lebanon are in the billions of dollars. Fifty-five bridges have been destroyed, electrical grids have been decimated, airports and hospitals are inoperable. The economy is failing, and banks are limiting terrified customers to $1,000 withdrawals in an attempt to prevent total currency failure.

Targeting civilian infrastructure and "collective punishment" are war crimes under the Geneva Convention. But that's just a "quaint" document with no bearing in today's modern world, isn't it?

Hezbollah is, unsurprisingly, still at large and as capable as ever.

Isn't it time the West learned that military action against "terrorists" is a failed tactic? How can one destroy an ideology with bombs? How many hearts and minds can be won through senseless destruction?

From the blood and rubble of Lebanon will rise such seething hatred and fury that no amount of brutal occupation will contain it. Terror thrives on violence and fear, and our "strongest ally" in the Middle East is pouring gasoline on the flames in an attempt to extinguish them.

The best part: Your tax dollars (more than $2.3 billion a year) go directly to the Israeli military! So when you see those pictures of children blasted to pieces on CNN, you can feel proud that your money is actually accomplishing something.

My fellow Americans, we are entering into a very dangerous time and are supporting a very dangerous government in a very dangerous part of the world.

Peace to you,
Mike "Dub" Wainwright

God Will Pick the Winner

Dear Editor,

Well, I think all these wars are cool, cuz it'll show the world whose religion is right. Finally, because God will pick the winner.

Blair Bovbjerg

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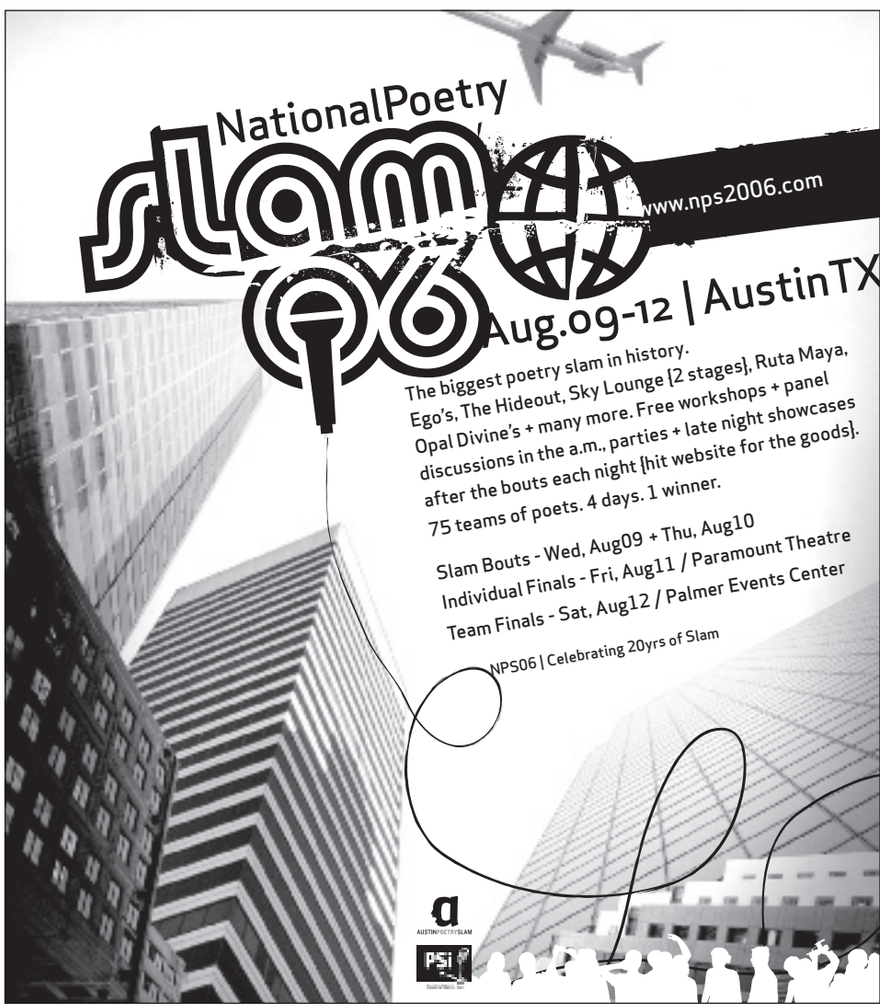


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A PUBLIC HEARING IS BEING CALLED BY THE TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT REGARDING COUNTY SERVICES AND PROPERTY TAXES

The Travis County planning and budget setting process is underway. The Commissioners Court is interested in hearing from the public about next year's budget. A copy of the FY 07 Preliminary Budget is on file with the County Clerk's Office and is available in the Planning and Budget Office, Rm. 540, 314 West 11th Street. It is also available on the Travis County internet web site at www.co.travis.tx.us.

Travis County provides services through its elected and appointed officials in the following broad program areas:

Justice and Public Safety
Health and Human Services
Transportation and Natural Resources
General Government and Support Services

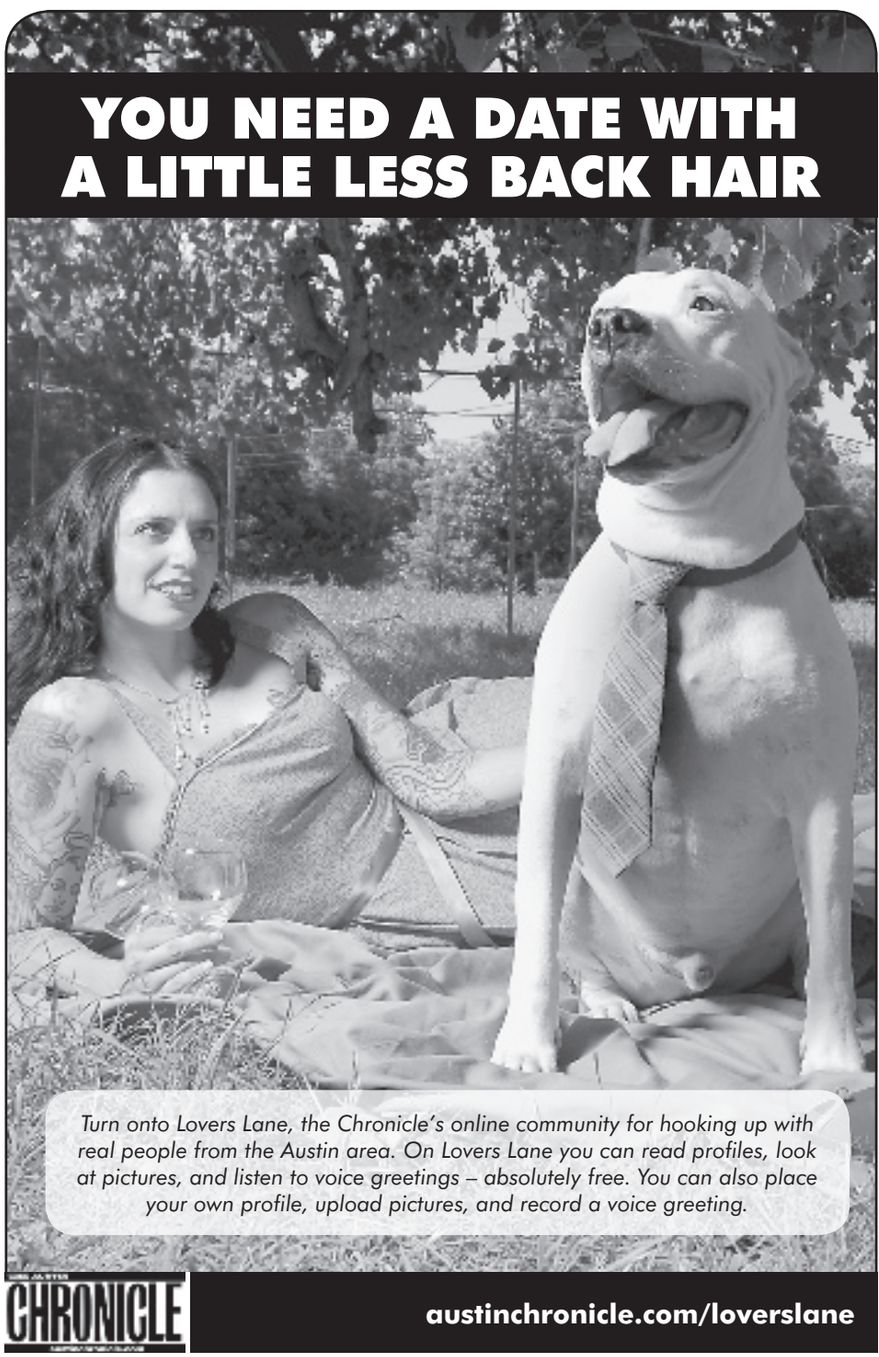
The public hearing will be held in the Travis County Commissioners Courtroom, 314 West 11th Street, on

Wednesday, August 9th @ 6pm

This is an opportunity to communicate with the Commissioners Court about service levels and property tax issues that are important to you.







news

25 THE HIGHTOWER REPORT **26** CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTER



JANA BIRCHUM

In 1945, Robert Chin was one of 100 Chinese military officers flown to the U.S. to serve as interpreters for Chinese pilots training for a top-secret World War II mission against Japan. The FAB-100 (FAB is short for Foreign Affairs Bureau), as they were known, were scattered at military bases across America, including what was then Bergstrom Army Air Field in Austin. On Sunday, Chin and five other surviving members of the Bergstrom group reunited at their old base – now Austin-Bergstrom International Airport – to mark the unveiling of a display honoring their largely forgotten role in America's and Austin's history. Although the war's end cut short the FAB-100 mission, members were nonetheless given the Medal of Freedom by President Truman and many stayed in the United States. One of the event sponsors was Larry Tu, senior vice-president and general counsel of Dell Inc. and son of the late Duke Tu, a FAB-100 member.



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Riding a bike is a privilege, not a right, and ... we must pay for that privilege by being safe."

– Former Mayor **Bruce Todd**, advocating a bike helmet law

"The city should be encouraging people to ride bikes by providing safer and more accommodating roads for bicyclists, rather than attempting to dictate that every adult wear more body armor while riding a bike."

– **Rob D'Amico**, League of Bicycling Voters

HEADLINES

- City Council doesn't meet this week, and Mayor Wynn is visiting Turkey (in search of a sister city), but council members have begun wrestling with the **proposed city budget**, presented last week by City Manager Toby Futrell. It's a Better Days budget, with rising income and more possibilities to increase city services, at a lower tax rate. See p.20, and "Point Austin," right.
- Also heating up on council's back burner is former Mayor Bruce Todd's post-coma proposal for a return to the mandatory **bicycle helmet law** repealed a decade ago. Todd debated bike advocate Patrick Goetz on the issue Tuesday night; the Dionysium sponsored the event. Council holds a public hearing on the issue Aug. 24.
- A three-judge panel of the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals was reportedly skeptical Monday that former U.S. House Majority Leader **Tom DeLay** is ineligible to appear on the November ballot. Texas Democrats won a lower court decision that the Texas GOP could not replace DeLay's name with another simply because he says he's moved to Virginia – because what matters to the Constitution is where he lives on Election Day.
- Despite growing international calls for a cease-fire (and U.S. and UK resistance), the **war in Lebanon** continues to rage, marked most recently by an Israeli bombing attack Sunday that killed at least 54 civilians, including 37 children. Retired Canadian Gen. Lewis MacKenzie, a former UN peace force commander, told the *Toronto Star*, "This region is on a very short fuse. The potential for a doomsday scenario of widening war is so horrendous that large powerful nations will do everything they can to stop it. They can't afford to do otherwise."

NAKED CITY

- In a two-page July 25 memo to the mayor and council, Assistant City Manager Rudy Garza reports that APD acting Chief **Cathy Ellison** did not violate any department policies in connection with her leaving her duty pistol in her city-owned car in December when she dropped the car off for service. According to a complaint filed by Melvin Schulze, a fleet services employee, Ellison was rude to him when she called to check on the car and was told it had been taken to a Ford dealership to be repaired. In his memo – apparently, to avoid any "ambiguity" – Garza lays out a clear, if not stunningly obvious, rule that, in the future, officers are required to remove any weapons from their cars before dropping them off for service. *– Jordan Smith*
- Forty-three percent of **traffic fatalities** in the unincorporated areas of Travis Co. involve speeders, reports the Travis Co. Sheriff's Office. A review of the circumstances surrounding the 33 such traffic deaths since January 2005 by Sheriff Greg Hamilton also revealed that 21% of the wrecks involved alcohol and 27% of the victims were not wearing a seat belt. Other driver-error factors – like driving on the wrong side of the road and failure to yield right-of-way – were involved in 48% of the accidents, TCSO reports. *– J.S.*
- The state released its **school accountability ratings** Wednesday, and 29 Austin schools were rated either exemplary or recognized, up from 29 last year. Still, the district's results were mixed. On the one hand, Harris and Sims elementary schools, which were overhauled under the Blueprint Initiative in 2002, received recognized ratings. However, Johnston High, the test case for the district's ambitious high school redesign plan, was deemed academically unacceptable again, although test scores did show some improvement. Johnston High and Webb Middle School have now received the unacceptable rating for three years in a row, which means the state could sanction, restructure, or even close the schools. "Every year, Texas' testing and accountability landscape changes," said Superintendent Pat Forgione. "Across the state, these tougher standards are a significant challenge to urban districts such as ours – districts with a majority of high-needs students. There are no easy solutions to creating successful schools – but there are no excuses either." *– Michael May*
- The taco wars rage on. The Planning Commission subcommittee on codes and ordinances met Monday to refine a **mobile-vending ordinance** passed by City Council. The meeting was held in a small conference

continued on p.19

POINT AUSTIN

Whose Budget?

Tax rate tug-of-war between Futrell and the council has public consequences

BY MICHAEL KING

Last week City Manager Toby Futrell presented her proposed 2006-07 city budget to the City Council, and the news was basically good. The state and local economy are doing well; we have more money in the official till than last year and the year before, surprisingly even more money than anticipated just last quarter. At that time, Futrell had estimated the "effective" tax rate – the rate that would bring in the same amount of revenue as last year – at 40.66 cents per $100 assessed property valuation, or 3.64 cents *lower* than the current ("nominal") rate of 44.30. That number survived into her budget transmittal letter, but in the meantime, the revenue picture has continued to improve so that the effective rate is now nearly a full cent lower, at 39.85 cents. Similarly, the "rollback" rate – the limit above last year's income (as defined in state law) that would trigger a potential tax election – dropped from 42.14 cents to 41.26 (still roughly 7% below the current 44.30 per $100).

That good news prompted most of the council members to ask, during the policy discussion June 25, that staff present the new budget as balanced at the rollback rate, allowing additional spending on community needs even while *cutting* the tax rate. As Brewster McCracken put it, "The reason why we build the tax base is so that we can achieve through prosperity the things that the community wants, as opposed to raising the tax rates. And if ... you are not using that prosperity to improve the community, what you are basically saying is that this is as good as it can ever get." Mayor Will Wynn "bit his tongue" (as he put it to me) on the question, but Lee Leffingwell and Betty Dunkerley concurred with McCracken's suggestion. Jennifer Kim chimed in, "How would that work if you have strategic adds? We are asking you to do more, balancing the budget at the higher rate."

No Huevos

Kim's question was as much a political one as financial, especially since the *Statesman* editors promptly pounded the council for threatening to "raise taxes" when in fact they were proposing the opposite. Indeed, as McCracken argued, the idea is to build upon the "economic development" that the *Statesman* editors never tire of promoting as the only possible way to public prosperity – until, that is, it comes time to actually pay for public investment. In any case, what the council is considering is allowing rising property

continued on p.18

values to add roughly $25 a year to the tax bill on a $175,000 home, hardly an overwhelming burden.


JOHN ANDERSON

But apparently Futrell was paying closer attention to the next day's *Statesman* than to the council discussion, because the budget she presented last week was once again balanced at the effective rate, thereby punting to council the decisions on any additional add-backs slashed during the last recession, not to mention a second round of political heat. She called hers a "meat and potatoes" budget – a bemused Leffingwell concurred with that description, adding, "maybe just rice and beans." He said he was "surprised" that it was proposed at the lower rate, but surmised charitably that the continuing increase in sales-tax income persuaded the staff that they could bring in the budget at the lower rate while still restoring some crucial cuts. While he would have "preferred" a rollback-rate budget, he said, "I'm assuming she had good reasons for what she did."

Kim was similarly forgiving, saying that while she wants to make certain that additional street-maintenance funds (at $2 million, no small potatoes) definitely make it into the final package, if the discussion were to begin at the rollback rate it would just mean arguing over what had to be cut if something else were added, "and that's very painful." In retrospect, she said, "I'm glad [Futrell] came in below the rollback rate."

The mayor, at JFK Airport en route to Turkey in search of sister cities, said he's fine with the budget as presented and doesn't doubt the citizens will weigh in with plenty of additions during the public hearings. He's mainly concerned that the council not "take our eye off the ball" of job creation, "because it takes the pressure off homeowner property taxes ... when it comes to fundamentally what has begun to get us out of the pain we have been in these past several years." Of the proposed budget, "I like the format," he said, "because it shows the community that we can have a balanced budget at the effective tax rate that measurably repairs some of those frayed edges. Now let's take that and see if maybe we want to do a little bit more."

McCracken, by contrast, was unapologetically annoyed. "We have a lot of responsibilities in the community that we need to be investing in now," he told me. "Simply doing the budget at the effective tax rate, which means pretty much the same as last year – that doesn't get us anywhere near where we need to be as a community."

"The reason why we build the tax base is so that we can achieve through prosperity the things that the community wants, as opposed to raising the tax rates."
– Brewster McCracken

It's Your Budget Now

This tug-of-war between city staff (particularly the city manager) and the council is hardly new, and at budget time the tension is aggravated by the inevitable division of labor between those elected officials setting broad policies and the staff charged with running the actual numbers. At bottom the decision on the tax rate and the specific budgeting decisions will only be made after the upcoming hearings and additional public input clarify which of the spending options are the highest community priorities. "To [Futrell's] credit," noted Leffingwell, "she also presented the results of the community focus-group study, and it showed a great deal of public support for the $25-a-year increase for the average homeowner, and for the things we need to spend it on." (Indeed, the study showed public support at more than 80% for "at least an additional $20 per year for ... strategic adds.")

There will certainly be plenty of additions to consider, "strategic" or not. Mike Martinez, who wasn't yet on the dais for the policy discussion, made it clear that he's not satisfied with the budget as it stands. He emphasized a few critical needs, including the numerous vacancies in EMS, underfunded street maintenance, and a persistent city habit of shoving what should be operations and maintenance spending into (borrowed) bond packages. "We need to be funding ongoing maintenance out of operating funds," he said, "not with four- and five-year bond packages."

McCracken was the testiest on the budget presentation and called it a question of city priorities. "So far the focus has been on the tax rate. We as a body will be focusing very strongly on the community needs. We're looking at – for a cost of a few dollars a month – we can start looking forward again as a community. That's a real small cost for a great return on investment. My position is totally unchanged where it was two months ago," he concluded. "If I'm going to choose between spending $2 a month and investing in the community or saving $2 a month and turning our backs on the community – afterschool programs, social services, investing in the future – I'm going to choose spending the $2 a month and investing in these pressing community needs." ■

For more details on the proposed city budget, see p.20.

BESIDE THE POINT

Bird Brains

"Expect the worst and hope for the best" isn't comforting policy, but hell – it's honest. With blunt talk in short supply, welcome realness arrived on council's doorstep last Thursday (no meeting this week) in the form of a one **Willy Conrad**. At the **Austin Water Utility**, Conrad is point man for **Water Treatment Plant 4**, to be built in **Balcones Canyonlands Preserve**. In many ways he's charged with defending the indefensible: The logic to building the city's next water plant in northwest Austin, away from future growth planned out east, is tortured enough; the overnight rehabilitation of WTP 4 to plant frontrunner, after being pummeled in public-works purgatory for 10-plus years, is similarly befuddling. Not according to the official line, of course: It goes that WTP 4's higher ground will require less pumping energy, and that annoying enviro and animal-habitat issues troubling the original site are squashed by moving the plant south, to the Cortana tract.

Well, that polite fiction was exploded Thursday, over discussion of the funding for WTP 4 designers **Carollo Engineers**. "We are about to authorize between $10 and $14 million [for Carollo], but we are still waiting on the impact analysis of the habitat issue," said Council Member **Mike Martinez**, speaking of the still-to-be-determined location of WTP 4 on the nesting sites of **black-capped vireos**. The Cortana tract is one of only two large nesting areas for the endangered bird in Austin; Martinez was concerned about cutting the check to Carollo, only to hear *later* that nothing can be done to protect the birds.

The answers from Conrad were illuminating: "In the long term of what we are planning here, there is going to be destruction of up to 45 acres of the 70-acre site. ... To be perfectly honest, our staff is split on what the potential of that may be. There's one side of our staff that feels ... the entire colony [of five nesting pairs] may be lost. ... However, the other side of our staff feels that up to three of those pairs may move to adjourning areas. ... I think my advice has always been we should expect the worst and hope for the best, as far as the five nesting pairs we are dealing with."

Mary Arnold of the city's Environmental Board also sounded an alarm, particularly angry that a mitigation report on Cortana prepared back in September was given to the board just last week – after council approved the plan. "I would encourage the City Council to delay this item a bit, to work out a way that you can reduce the $10 million. Show us what we got for 1 million," she said, referencing funds previously allotted to Carollo for site assessment, "and devise a smaller amount right now to work on the alternate site issues, the environmental assessment that we don't have."

To no avail: Carollo's contract was approved 5-1, Martinez voting no, and **Jennifer Kim** abstaining. "I think requesting a two-week delay to get more of a scope of activity from the first million ... is not unreasonable," said Martinez. Not unreasonable, just ... for the birds. *– Wells Dunbar*

Send city tips, grist, and gossip to **wdunbar@austinchronicle.com**.



room at city hall, and it was intimate and uncomfortable. East Riverside residents argued that the fixed taco stands should not qualify for a "mobile" designation and blamed the taco stand vendors for a host of social ills. "It seems like you want to get rid of taco stands," said Chairman David Sullivan, "and we're not going to do that." The taco stand vendors said they want to find a way to ease the complaints, but at one point, they also got emotional and accused neighbors of "having a problem with Hispanic culture." Sullivan tried to steer the conversation toward concrete proposals that would affect where taco stands can operate, how long they can stay open, and whether they should be required to hire security. He ultimately postponed the discussion until the next meeting, on Aug. 15. – *M.M.*

- Kudos to *Chron* staff writer **Jordan Smith**, whose October 21, 2005 cover story "Crackpot Crackdown" (**austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Issue/story?oid=oid%3A301887**) nabbed first prize in the category of Drugs Reporting in the 2006 AltWeekly Awards contest, which was open to the more than 120 member papers of the Association of Alternative Newsweeklies.

- City Council's taking the week off, returning to regular session Thursday, Aug. 10, but not before a special-called meeting the day before. Aug. 9 is a "**Zoneapalooza**," as ex-*Chron* staffer and Brewster McCracken aide Rachel Proctor May put it, dedicated largely to zoning cases. As if that weren't enough, headlining on stage 2 that day is McCracken's **design standards and mixed-use** report, an implementation of the design task force's recommendations from last year. The standards are heavy on pedestrian- and mixed-transit-friendly measures – like wider sidewalks, placing storefronts and buildings along streets instead of parking, and common open spaces in larger developments – as well as encourage solar power and pervious cover, among other things. – *Wells Dunbar*

- A new park, boasting the deep shade of 100-foot Cottonwoods, craggy rock outcroppings, and the placid whisper of flowing water, is under construction along the Colorado River, just outside Bastrop. An Austin-based crew from the American YouthWorks Environmental Corps teamed with the Pines and Prairies Land Trust, which serves Bastrop, Lee, Caldwell, and Fayette counties, to create the park. The **Colorado River Refuge**, as the new park is called, is set to formally open in November and will serve as a wildlife refuge. It will include free daytime hiking access to interpretive trails as well as birding and fishing. Workers are focusing on reversing damage from flooding, four-by-four trucks, ATVs, and dumping, while mitigating future degradation. "Our crews build top-quality trails despite the heat and poison ivy, plus they learn lessons from nature, and they learn teamwork," said YouthWorks coordinator Parc Smith. The Bastrop Co. Water Control and Improvement District No. 2 deeded the land at almost no cost to Pines and Prairies, one of 40 land trusts operating statewide, according to Pines and Prairies Executive Director Tom Dureka. The park is 2 miles outside downtown Bastrop and directly across Highway 71 from the Tahitian Village subdivision. – *Daniel Mottola*



DAN MOTTOLA

- As of Wednesday only four slots remained for a 48-hour **course in solar photovoltaic electricity**, offered by Austin Community College and the State Energy Conservation Office. The spring installment of the class was so popular that it sold out two weeks ahead of its start date, prompting ACC to open another section. The upcoming course, which will offer students the opportunity to obtain the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners Photovoltaic Entry Level Certificate of Knowledge (designed for those wanting to enter the solar electric energy profession), will run from Sept. 6 to Dec. 13, and is limited to 20 registrants. While the certificate of knowledge by itself will not qualify an individual to install photovoltaic systems, students receiving the entry-level certificate will be eligible to enter the workforce and secure the required two years of on-the-job training to be able to sit for the NABCEP certifying exam for PV installers, said Solar Austin spokeswoman Jane Pulaski. In addition to classroom activities, students participate in hands-on installation and trouble-shooting exercises around town. The class' total cost is $503. For more info, see **www3.austincc.edu/schedule/wcell/ceren.htm**. – *D.M.*

BEYOND CITY LIMITS

- By now, the news is as old as Grandma herself, but in case you missed last week's flurry of breaking reports, **Carole Keeton Strayhorn** has dropped her lawsuit to have "Grandma" added to her name on the November ballot. The independent candidate for governor announced her retreat from battle last Thursday, after State District Judge Suzanne Covington ruled her court didn't have jurisdiction to meddle in ballot politics. Strayhorn's attorney, Roy Minton, initially vowed to appeal the ruling, providing an opportunity for Grandma to take the high ground and withdraw the lawsuit because all the fussin' and fightin' over her nickname had become, as she put it, "A distraction from the real issues we all face." In the same breath, though, Strayhorn returned to low ground, blasting the state elections chief for rejecting her request to be identified as "Grandma" on the ballot. "The secretary of state is wrong," she said of Roger Williams, a Rick Perry appointee. "He is doing the political bidding of his boss." – *Amy Smith*

- In other gubernatorial race news, the man whose grasp of the Spanish language is limited to two words – "adios, mofo" – has won the endorsement of a dozen elected officials from the Rio Grande Valley, spoiling predictions that Gov. **Rick Perry**'s caught-on-tape gaffe would cost him the support of Hispanic leaders. Amazingly, Perry's office said the endorsement of 11 mayors and a city commissioner sends a message to valley voters that, regardless of their political party ties, "Texas needs a governor that can put partisanship aside for the good of Texas and will seek common ground whenever possible." ("Whenever possible" being the operative words.) On a more serious note, the Texas chapter of the National Association of Social Workers has endorsed Democrat **Chris Bell** and chipped in $1,000 toward his campaign. Carol Miller, spokeswoman for the group's political arm, said the state chapter is confident that Bell would "right all the wrongs of the current Texas leadership." – *A.S.*

- Also receiving the NASW-Texas endorsement, as well as that of the Austin Police Association, is Austin attorney and candidate for 3rd Court of Appeals **Diane Henson**. She is bidding to replace retiring Judge Bea Ann Smith in the court's Place 3 seat. Henson ran for the Place 6 seat in 2004, earning 48.4% of the vote and nearly knocking incumbent Judge Bob Pemberton from the bench. The APA represents nearly all APD officers and is one of the largest law enforcement union groups in the court's 24-county jurisdiction. "I am honored to have so much support from public servants who serve at the front lines – protecting our families and communities," Henson said in a press release. "Social workers and police officers work in our courts every day and understand that we need lawyers with integrity and qualifications who will bring a balanced and thoughtful approach to the bench." Henson, in a match-up of two Austin lawyers, faces Republican **Will Wilson** in November. – *J.S.*

- ***Ms. Magazine*** is collecting signatures from women who've had an abortion as part of its revamped "We Had Abortions" petition campaign, aimed at "saving lives" and sparing "other women the pain of socially imposed guilt," by coming forward, publicly, to acknowledge having had the procedure. The magazine first collected the signatures of 53 prominent women – including founder Gloria Steinem – and printed the petition in the magazine's 1972 debut issue – months before the Supreme Court's landmark *Roe v. Wade* decision. In the face of new attacks on *Roe* – specifically in South Dakota and in Louisiana, where lawmakers have passed laws to recriminalize the practice in the event that the Supremes ever reverse their stance – the magazine has decided to revive the 34-year-old campaign. "It is time to speak out again – in even larger numbers – and to make politicians face their neighbors, influential movers and shakers, and yes, their family members," reads the *Ms.* Web site. "We cannot, must not – for U.S. women and the women of the world – lose the right to safe, legal, and accessible abortion or access to birth control." *Ms.* will send the petitions to state and federal lawmakers and to the White House. For more info, go to **www.msmagazine.com**. – *J.S.*

- Texas is the nation's top wind power producer, according to the **American Wind Energy Association**, which reports that Texas' cumulative wind power capacity stands at 2,370 megawatts, enough to power 600,000 average American homes. Texas recently blew past California, America's wind leader for 25 years. Austin-based renewable energy consultant Mike Sloan said the announcement shows that wind power makes business sense, noting that wind represents the No. 1 power-plant investment statewide this year and last. Thanks to a combination of matured technology and fossil-fuel prices that have risen sharply, Sloan says, "Wind is cheaper than oil and gas at today's prices," and he notes that Electric Reliability Council of Texas data shows that more than 50,000 megawatts of undeveloped wind power potential exists just in Texas' 10 best wind power areas. Considering that the state's entire electric usage is 75,000 megawatts, he's optimistic that Texas' wind industry will grow – but how quickly depends on whether leaders can "get out in front" of the problematic issue of supplying infrastructure (such as power transmission lines) to the windiest areas so that power can be sent back to big cities. For more info on wind power see **www.awea.org**. – *D.M.*

- Kathie Winckler, commissioner for the Texas Interstate Compact Office, said Friday that she's "working with the governor's office to draft a proposal that would allow Texas to nab **out-of-state fugitives** without waiting for their home state to issue warrants," reports the *San Antonio Express-News*. As many as 1,700 Louisiana parolees and probationers fled to Texas after hurricane Katrina, without reporting to authorities in either state, according to the daily, which notes, "Failure to report is a violation of their release conditions, but only Louisiana can authorize their arrest for it." – *Cheryl Smith*

- Yet another relative of the fugitive polygamist "prophet" **Warren Jeffs** – head of the Mormon off-shoot sect, the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints – has been jailed for contempt of court in connection with the federal grand jury investigation of the FLDS, reports the *Salt Lake Tribune*. **Benjamin Jeffs Nielsen**, 25, Jeffs' nephew, was booked into a federal detention center in Arizona last month, the daily reports – he joins five others, including Jeffs' older brother Leroy, each of whom have refused to testify as part of the ongoing grand jury probe. Until recently, the *Tribune* reports, Nielsen was living on FLDS property in Mancos, Colo., serving as "caretaker" for properties that, on paper at least, are owned by David Steed Allred – a high-ranking FLDS member also behind the church's purchase of land just outside the West Texas town of Eldorado, where the FLDS has built a vast, gated compound known as the Yearning for Zion ranch. Meanwhile, Warren is still on the loose, dodging state and federal charges related to his arranging marriages between minor girls and older, married men. – *J.S.*

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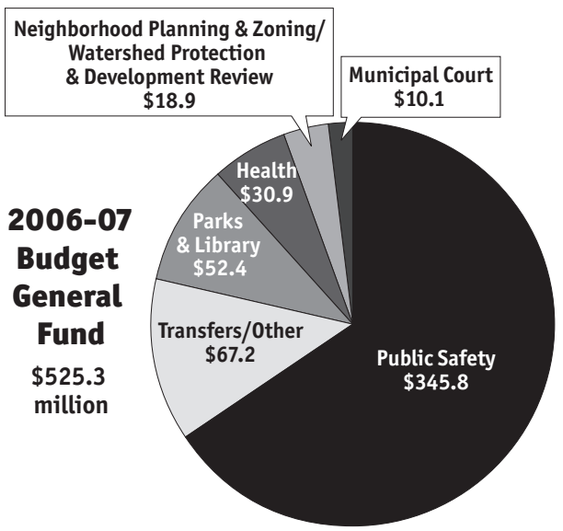
TOBY FUTRELL'S BUDGET:
Highlights and details

Last week, City Manager Toby Futrell presented her "Fiscal 2007 budget plan" to the City Council, noting that the local economy is improving and that her proposed budget "continues to rebuild our services, respond to growth, and reinvest in our workforce following several years of economic downturn." The budget as proposed is "balanced" at the effective tax rate – 39.85 cents per $100 of assessed property value – which would bring in the same amount of property-tax revenue as last year and is four cents below the current (nominal) rate. The charts below provide some details and highlights of the proposed budget. – *Michael King and Wells Dunbar*

Proposed General-Fund Spending

Public Safety: $345.8 million

Police register at $196.6 million, the bulk of public safety. The Fire Department is at $106 million; added funds would restore four "frontline" firefighter positions. EMS, currently at $38.1 million, is a "top priority for reinvestment," says Futrell, with creation of a new "peak load unit" for periods when call volume climbs. Public safety and emergency management (airport, parks, and muni-courts police) claim the remaining $5.1 million.



Parks and Library: $52.4 million

The Parks Department's $31.4 million covers current programs and provides for a refurbished Town Lake Park, the Mexican American Cultural Center, and a new Northeast rec center in 2007. The library adds additional security and staff with $21 million.

Health and Human Services: $30.9 million

H&HS' allowance keeps pace with costs of vaccines, employees, and operating the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless. The African American Quality of Life Initiative is allotted $128,000, and $125,000 would go toward "graffiti abatement."

Neighborhood Planning and Zoning/Watershed Protection and Development Review: $18.9 million

With building booming, watershed's $14.4 million budget includes $515,000 toward quicker site inspection; NP&Z's $4.5 million funds jobs in downtown design, neighborhood planning, design standards, and historic zoning.

Municipal Court: $10.1 million

The capstone of the court budget is a switch to round-the-clock court at central booking. The graveyard shift costs $313,000 bones.

Transfers/Other: $67.2 million

This nebulous category accounts for project funding and support staff in offices like sanitation or the law department. The budget proposes an increase for funding these offices, including council offices. Adoption of an expanded "plus-one" insurance program (i.e., beyond domestic partnerships) remains an open question for council.

August 10
Community Services
Parks and Recreation, Library, Health and Human Services, Housing and Development, Solid Waste Services

August 24
Public Safety
Public Safety, Police, Fire, Emergency Medical Services, Municipal Court, Emergency Management

August 31
Major Utilities/ Infrastructure and Growth Management
Energy, Water, Public Works, Watershed Protection and Development Review, Neighborhood Planning and Zoning, Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services

All presentations begin at 11am, public hearings at 6pm.

Budget Timeline

The City Council will consider the budget department by department, in a series of public hearings over the next month, before voting on a final proposal in September.

Strategic Additions – Funded

NEW SPENDING BY CATEGORY	COST
Public Safety	$2.4 million
Community Services	$2.4 million
Central Support Services	$1.3 million
Total	**$6.1 million**

The staff-proposed city budget includes $6.1 million for what City Manager Futrell calls "Strategic Adds": "critical unmet needs … crucial to the effective delivery of our core city services." These costs would be met under the budget's "effective" tax rate (the same revenue as last year).

• "Public safety" adds include additional positions in EMS, firefighters, and police.
• "Community services" increases include building inspections, code enforcement, planning, parks, and libraries.
• "Central support services" would restore 22 positions across categories including building services, finance, human resources, legal services, auditing, and the city clerk's office.

Proposed Additions – Unfunded

NEEDS BY CATEGORY	COST
Public Safety	$1.9 million
Community Services	$3.3 million
Support Services	$0.1 million
Workforce Initiatives	$1.2 million
Affordable Housing	$1.2 million
Total	**$7.7 million**

The staff-proposed city budget identifies an additional $7.7 million in "unfunded strategic adds" – that is, unfunded under the effective tax rate. Paying for these would require a higher tax rate, but still below the current ("nominal") rate. These categories do not include other needs as identified in previous policy discussions: job training, preventive street maintenance, and afterschool programs, among others.

• "Public safety" additions would include 15 future EMS paramedics, additional civilian police staff and lake patrol, and replacement firefighter gear.
• "Community services" range from a South Austin day-labor site to affordable housing funding.
• "Workforce initiatives" include expanded health-insurance coverage for city employees and bilingual pay.

Potential Tax Rates

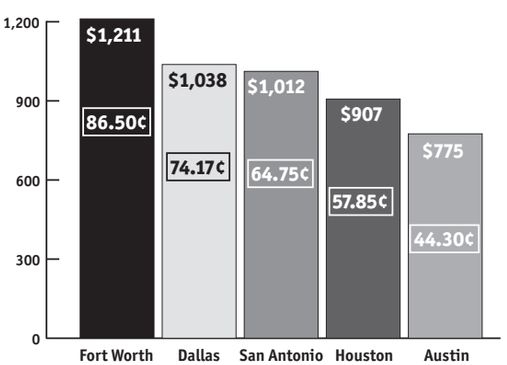
Rate Type	Rate per $100
Effective Rate	39.85
Rollback Rate	41.26
Nominal Rate	44.30

The proposed budget lists three potential property-tax rates:

• The "effective" rate of 39.85 cents would bring in the same amount of revenue as last year; this is the rate on which the staff-proposed budget is based.
• The "rollback" rate of 41.26 would bring in additional funds, estimated at $8.4 million; it's the maximum rate allowed without triggering a state-required election.
• The current ("nominal") rate of 44.30 cents would produce another $18 million on top of that, but it would require a city election.

Tax Rate Comparisons

City officials point with pride to Austin's property-tax rate in comparison with other major Texas cities; Austin's rate can be significantly lower because of the relatively higher value of Austin property and because the city owns its electric utility, Austin Energy, providing another major source of income. This chart compares the tax rates and average property-tax bills for five major cities, at current rates.



Property Tax Bill – $175,000 Home Comparison for 2005-06

WEED WATCH

Orrin Hatch, Drug Law Reformer?

BY JORDAN SMITH

Amid criticism suggesting that he's either a hypocrite or just plain off his rocker, Utah Sen. **Orrin Hatch** is "standing firm" in his decision to help R&B producer **Dallas Austin** shake a cocaine possession beef in the United Arab Emirates, reports *The Salt Lake Tribune*. Austin reportedly traveled to Dubai in May to attend a birthday bash for model **Naomi Campbell** and was popped by police for carrying just over a gram of coke – a charge that could've netted Austin more than a decade in a UAE prison. The producer pleaded guilty and spent two months in jail before he was finally sprung, with a little help from Hatch, last month. The *Tribune* reports that Hatch made several calls to the UAE consul in Washington, D.C., at the request of attorney and former Hatch staffer **Nancy Taylor**, whose law firm has represented both Austin – a Grammy-winning producer who has worked with Michael Jackson and Madonna, among others – and Hatch, who fancies himself a singer-songwriter (Hatch has released nine albums with song titles such as "Jesus' Love Is Like a River," "My God Is Love," and the ever-snappy "Heal Our Land: A Prayer for Our Country").



Utah Sen. Orrin Hatch

Utah Sen. Orrin Hatch is "standing firm" in his decision to help R&B producer Dallas Austin shake a cocaine possession beef in the United Arab Emirates.

Hatch told reporters that his decision to intercede in the case was based on his "long-standing angst" with **mandatory-minimum sentencing laws**, which prescribe variously draconian prison terms for a host of crimes – many of them drug-related – without offering judges much leeway to reduce the terms based on a case's individual or mitigating circumstances. Taylor told the daily that she decided to ask for Hatch's help because he is "a very humanitarian person," but in a press statement, her law firm later downplayed Hatch's influence, writing that UAE officials stated that such a release is not uncommon when "the only victim [of the alleged crime] is the accused."

Nonetheless, Hatch took a beating from critics who said he was either setting a bad example by helping an admitted drug user or is a hypocrite for not using his influence to help thousands of similarly situated Americans who face similarly disproportionate manmin sentences in U.S. courts. "I go to court with those very same people every day, and the judges tell me Congress says we have to put you in prison, even for small amounts of drugs," Utah defense attorney **Ron Yengich** told the *Tribune*. "I wish that Senator Hatch and the Congress of the United States would understand this guy [Austin] isn't the exception, he is the rule."

□

In other news, marijuana-law-reform advocates are anxiously awaiting a ruling from a Drug Enforcement Administration administrative-law judge on whether the **National Institute on Drug Abuse** will be allowed to maintain a monopoly on growing and distributing pot for use in clinical research. The question has been hanging out there since 2004, when the DEA rejected an application – after sitting on it for more than three years – from the **University of Massachusetts at Amherst** that sought permission to grow pot for Food and Drug Administration-approved research. Granting such a request, the DEA opined, simply wouldn't "be consistent with the public interest."

The **Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies** – a nonprofit research outfit that assists scientists with pot-related research – and U. Mass' Medicinal Plant Program Director **Lyle Craker** cried foul, challenging the DEA's decision. In testimony last year before Administrative Law Judge **Mary Ellen Bittner**, they argued that a U. Mass pot-production facility is in the public interest because it would encourage production of a better crop of test pot – researchers have increasingly complained about the poor quality of NIDA's stash, which reportedly makes accurate clinical testing difficult – and would "promote technological and scientific advancement in the field of medicine," reports the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws. "The DEA's refusal to permit me to grow marijuana for research necessarily prevents an accurate assessment of this plant's potential medical properties," Craker testified.

Unfortunately for researchers, even if Bittner rules in their favor, federal law would allow DEA head **Karen Tandy** to ignore the decision in the same manner that the DEA has, essentially, ignored research requests.

Send drug war tips to **jsmith@austinchronicle.com**

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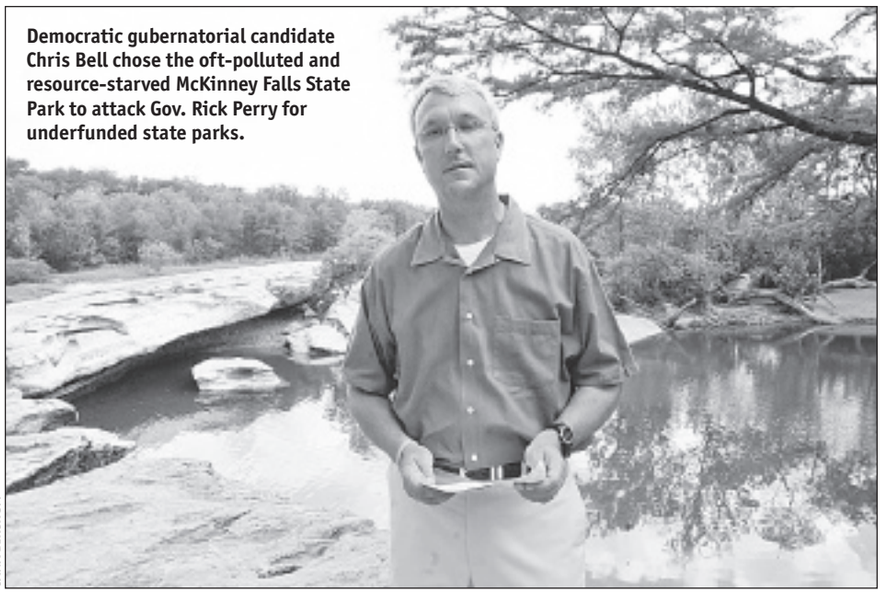
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Bell Blasts Perry for Underfunded Parks



Democratic gubernatorial candidate Chris Bell chose the oft-polluted and resource-starved McKinney Falls State Park to attack Gov. Rick Perry for underfunded state parks.

JANA BIRCHUM

On most days, the Smith Visitor Center at **McKinney Falls State Park** is as dark and silent as a shuttered storefront beset by hard times. A similar hardscrabble tale could be told of the visitor center, which can only afford to keep weekend hours because of staffing shortages and maintenance costs. The outdated facility with the water-damaged roof houses fossilized treasures from the Cretaceous period and educational nuggets detailing the ecological history of the 725-acre park, located at Austin's southeast doorstep.

The financially strapped park suffers from the same parental neglect as every other state-owned park across Texas, and Democratic gubernatorial candidate **Chris Bell** has made the **park-funding crisis** a key component of his **"Healthy Texas"** environmental plank. Bell sought to highlight Gov. **Rick Perry**'s lackluster record on parks during a campaign stop Monday at McKinney Falls, one of several recreational spots on Bell's crisscross tour of parks that included the Texas State Railroad in Palestine, Caddo Lake in East Texas, the San Jacinto Battleground and battleship sites in Houston, and the Wyler Aerial Tramway in El Paso's beloved Franklin Mountains.

Recounting his stop at the historic sites in Houston, Bell noted, "The Battleship Texas is held together with duct tape and Silly Putty, and the elevator at the San Jacinto Monument doesn't go all the way to the top. If that's not a metaphor for Rick Perry's park policy, I don't know what is."

Standing before a pooled area of Onion Creek, Bell accused Perry of failing to honor the wishes of voters, who in 2001 approved $101 million in state bonds to pay for park improvements. Since then, Bell said, state parks received just $36.7 million in bond money for 2001-2002, followed by zero dollars in the 2003-2004 budget cycle and only $18.1 million for 2005-2006. "Texans went to the polls and voted to fund our state parks, but Rick Perry has defied us and is blocking these funds while our parks waste away," Bell said.

The park system's funding problems began long before Perry took the helm. In 1995, the Lege placed a $32 million cap on the amount of funding parks would receive from the sporting-goods tax. But Bell faults Perry for perpetuating the park system's declining health while overseeing a state budget that has grown 42% under his watch. Nationally, Texas ranks No. 49 in per capita spending on state parks. Responding to recent criticism over parks funding, Perry said he would sign legislation to eliminate the $32 million cap and boost funding for the beleaguered park system. But Bell believes Perry's preference would be to privatize the park system altogether, despite numerous polls that show voters overwhelmingly support leaving Texas parks under public control.

Until the Legislature loosens its grip on the purse strings, parks across the state will continue operating on limited funds and staffing. Park rangers suffer the brunt of complaints from visitors having to pay higher entry fees for fewer benefits, such as the "Closed" sign that greets folks Monday through Friday at the Smith Visitor Center. "This could really be an outstanding, state-of-the-art facility, especially for Austin kids," Park Superintendent **David Shirley** said, echoing Bell's call for more funding. Upgrading the center and bringing the rest of the park up to speed would run about $3 million, Shirley said.

A recent study commissioned by the **Texas Parks and Wildlife Department** painted a dismal picture of state-owned public lands. An additional $25 million per year is needed for day-to-day operations, the study reported, while an extra $100 million would be required to restore parks to modern-day standards. That's not all – parks on the critical list need some $500 million to cover major repairs, plus another $40 million to cover a backlog of road-repairs in state parks.

Things are so tight at McKinney Falls, for example, that park rangers are forced to choose between fishing trash out of Onion Creek and cleaning the restrooms. "While the litter tends to look bad, our priority is the health and safety of park visitors – and that means keeping the restrooms clean," Shirley said. – *Amy Smith*

State Highway 130:
Extraterritorial pains

When it comes to the bright future around **State Highway 130**, it's the **city of Austin**'s assessment that the new tollway will be more albatross than golden goose.

That's because the vast majority of the roadway's path, good or bad, lies in Austin's **extraterritorial jurisdiction**. In some cases – like when the swath of land includes a Samsung, Dell, or Applied Materials – that's good news for the city and its taxpayers. New land that includes businesses – and not simply rooftops – brings both new property value and new taxpayers into the city and defrays the cost of new city-services.

What the city found with its own assessment of SH 130, however, is that the 174 square miles along and near the tollway corridor in Austin's extraterritorial jurisdiction have limited curb-appeal for the city. Half of the land is either developed or unable to be developed because of slopes or environmental features. Of the balance, some of the land is good – such as near larger employers, adjacent to potential rapid-transit corridors, or close to the airport – and some is bad – such as impossible to serve with utilities, low growth, or plagued by flooding.

City Manager **Toby Futrell** told an SH 130 corridor forum convened by soon-to-be state Sen. **Kirk Watson** on Monday that the city estimates it would cost $2.4 billion to bring all the available land into the city limits and to provide that land with city services, as required under state law in populated areas. Even if that area were pared down to the bare-minimum 42 square miles along the corridor – served by the bare minimum of services – it would cost the city $570 million to provide **water/wastewater**, **drainage**, and **roads**.

Even if the city could skim the benefits of positive mixed-use development in the corridor – charging the current tax rate – it would only amount to $460 million over 30 years, according to city estimates. The financial benefits of annexation would be nil.

"That [tax money] doesn't even come close to paying for the basic infrastructure in this area," Futrell told the group, noting that some form of permanent, limited-purpose annexation might be a solution, if the Legislature were to pursue such authority for cities.

Austin wants annexation along SH 130 that will be orderly, dense, and mixed-use, with an emphasis on infrastructure planning to address the long-term drainage problems in the region, Futrell said. Along with additional development and annexation tools for cities and counties along the corridor, Watson's forum likely will consider **incentive-based measures** such as a less costly desired development zone to encourage some growth along the corridor. – *Kimberly Reeves*

Public Benefits, Privatization Problems

The **Texas Integrated Eligibility Redesign System** – still fraught with challenges as privately run call centers struggle to handle thousands of needy clients – was the subject of a critical hearing before the **House Government Reform Committee** last week. The **Austin-San Marcos area** has served as the pilot area for the rollout of TIERS, which relies primarily on vendor call-centers run by the technology outsourcing firm **Accenture**, using common software to process new and renewing clients for a variety of social-service programs across various agencies. These programs cross both agency and computer platform, and the struggle to integrate has been mighty, according to both the agency and those critical of TIERS.

At last week's hearing, those critics – including current state employees who face imminent layoffs – labeled Accenture's integration of various programs as ill-conceived, and called the software slow, inadequate, and sometimes even inaccurate. Groups contracted to enroll children in the **Children's Health Insurance Program**, like **Avance** in the Rio Grande Valley, expressed frustration over the inability of Accenture's contracted workers to keep up with paperwork and handle phone calls.

Lawmakers, especially from those low-income areas where CHIP enrollment is heaviest, had a sharp warning for the **Health and Human Services Commission**, and Accenture. State Rep. **Veronica Gonzales**, D-McAllen, said it was simply unacceptable to see that the state was enrolling fewer children in CHIP than it did five years ago. And Chair **Carlos Uresti**, D-San Antonio, did not hide his frustration with the program, especially when it came to questioning the savings promised by Republican sponsors. "It's no secret that I've been a critic of the program and policy decisions that led up to the eligibility system. Today's hearing is not to revisit those debates," he said. "This is not a Republican or Democratic issue. This is a malfunctioning of a system that is taking its toll on the lives of the most vulnerable in our society."

The primary goals of TIERS, passed under **HB 2292**, were both greater efficiency and cost savings, primarily through closing offices and consolidating programs into a single application. The full rollout, however, has been in limbo as Accenture has tried to work out the snags in the software. Three years after the bill was passed, it's still unclear how much of the promised $640 million in savings the state will see over five years, though HHSC Executive Commissioner **Albert Hawkins** promised the savings would be "on course" once the model was implemented.

Hawkins and Deputy Commissioner **Anne Heiligenstein** spent about four hours on the hot seat, answering questions from lawmakers on everything from the abandon rate on phone calls (performance is getting better) to the notification of clients for renewal (three times, by letter) to the impact of new income standards and the six-month enrollment period for families in CHIP (a factor in declining numbers).

Already, with the full rollout delayed, the state has retained 1,000 staff members it expected to lay off and pumped another $56.1 million into the current system. Heiligenstein said it was unfortunate HHSC had to learn the lessons it had from TIERS, but those lessons are being absorbed, and addressed, in training and staffing. – *Kimberly Reeves*

District 31 Race Heats Up

Fur is starting to fly in the **District 31 congressional race** between Republican two-term incumbent **John Carter** and Democratic challenger **Mary Beth Harrell**. While the campaign up until now has mostly featured Harrell trying to get voters' attention, Carter made it clear, in a recent fundraising letter, that he takes her seriously.

The thrust of the letter is that the recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling on **redistricting** raises the possibility that redrawn lines could force Carter into an open primary, and he wants plenty of cash to fight possibly multiple candidates. (Thus far none of the proposed maps has contemplated changes in District 31, which stretches from Williamson Co. up to Erath Co.) Carter then turns both barrels on Harrell, saying he expects "a nasty campaign this fall."

"My opponent is an attorney from New York who now lives in Killeen. She has attacked me for securing money for the soldiers and families at **Fort Hood**. She has attacked me for inheriting stock from my father who worked his entire life to accumulate these assets to provide for his family's security. And she has joined with national liberals who call for a "cut and run" strategy in the **War on Terror**," the letter reads.

"This is not a fair fight. ... The national media has a clear agenda to bring down Republicans."

– John Carter's fundraising letter



John Carter



Mary Beth Harrell

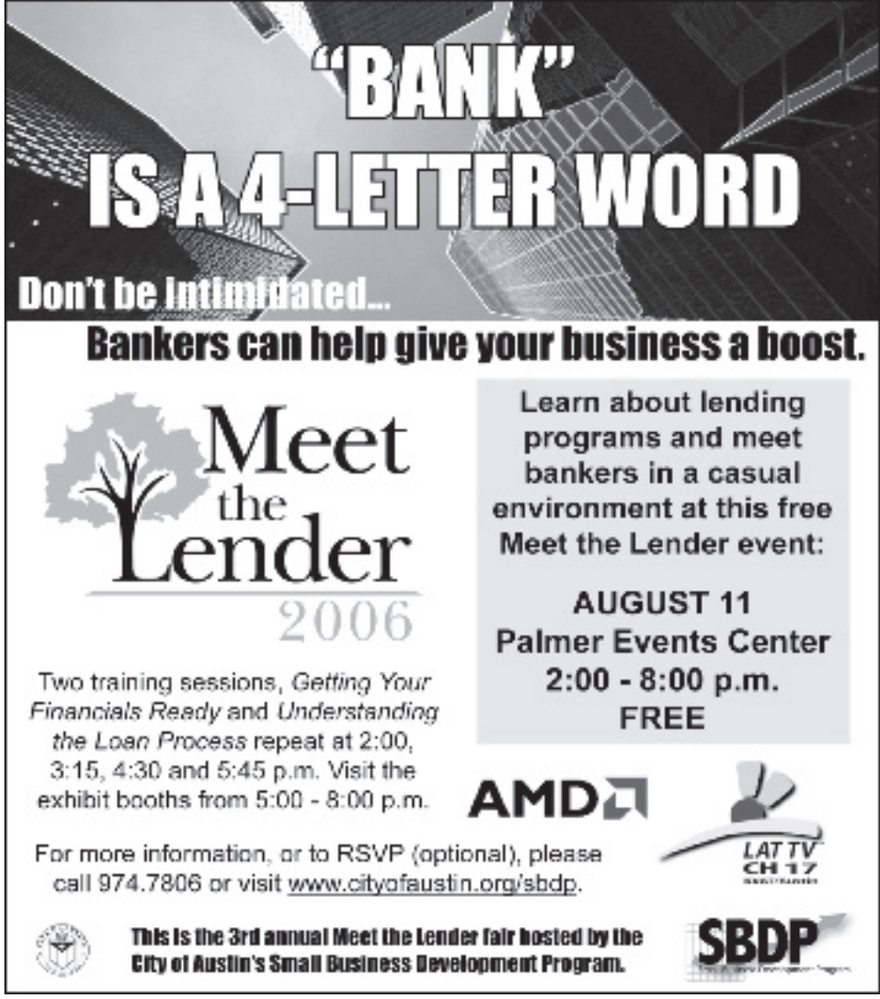
That didn't sit too well with Harrell, a military wife and mom who has made her anger over the war her biggest selling point to a district loaded with Fort Hood families. "I have not and will not support any policy that squanders our son's service in Iraq or diminishes our family's proud military tradition. ... My husband defended our country for 23 years in the Army. We just put our oldest boy on a plane back to Iraq to finish his tour of duty with the 4th Infantry Division from Fort Hood. In fact, my opponent knows our oldest son – he met him during his trip to Iraq in April. Our son also served in Bosnia," said Harrell in a press release. She has previously called for a timetable for withdrawing U.S. troops, and in her press release she suggests they be replaced with a broad U.N. coalition similar to that used in Bosnia.

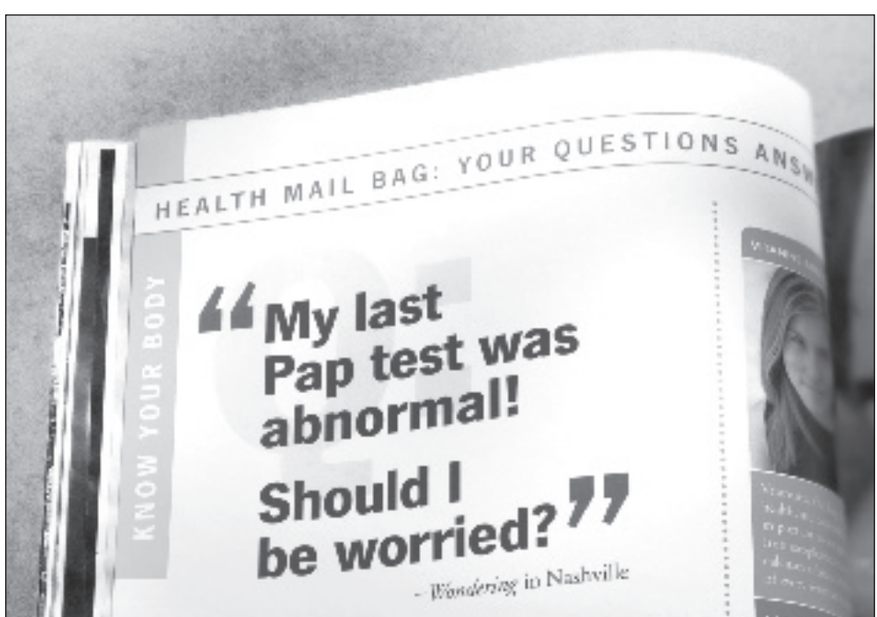
The money Carter secured for "Fort Hood families," she charges, was $7 million for "a seventh gym for Fort Hood when soldiers, their family members, and veterans urgently need more money for health care. There's something patently wrong with the federal government's spending priorities when Fort Hood currently does not have enough money to pay its bills or repair and return equipment needed in Iraq." The supposed attack on Carter's dear old dad, she says, was actually a rebuttal to a press conference Carter held on rising gas prices, in which he did not discuss his **Exxon Mobil Corp. holdings** or votes favorable to oil companies. After Harrell began attacking him for this, he told the *Austin American-Statesman* in June that his family is considering selling the stock.

As for her residency, Harrell points out that she isn't exactly pulling a Hillary Clinton – she says she's been in Texas since 1987 when her husband was stationed at Fort Hood, followed by a law degree from San Antonio's **St. Mary's University School of Law** and a law practice that has always been in Texas. The Harrells recently purchased a small ranch in Gatesville, Coryell County.

It's unclear exactly what Carter fears from Harrell, unless you buy into his theory a few paragraphs later that "this is not a fair fight. ... The national media has a clear agenda to bring down Republicans." Back in the real world, and discounting the unlikely map-drawing, Carter appears to be in a safe district – he trounced his opponents in 2004 with 65% of the vote, and although both he and Harrell were unopposed in this year's respective primaries, the 23,438 votes Republicans cast for him tower over the 7,023 Harrell received for the Dem nomination. It would certainly seem that he has violated a basic tenet of campaigning, which is that if one appears headed for an easy election victory, ignore your opponent, lest ye give away free publicity.

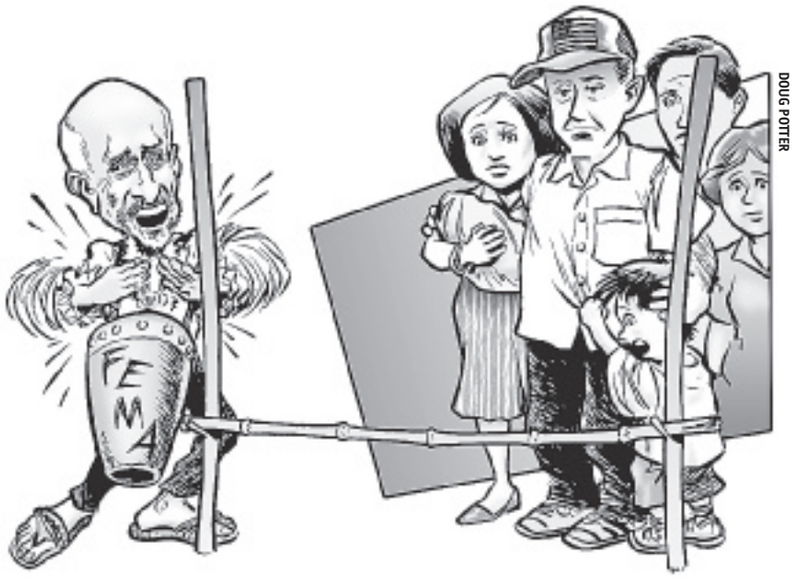
– Lee Nichols





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DOUG POTTER

Hurricane Housing Limbo Update

Every limbo boy and girl
All around the limbo world
Gonna do the limbo rock
All around the limbo clock ...

Although it's impossible to gauge how many Katrina and Rita evacuees' brains responded to the latest housing aid news from the **Federal Emergency Management Agency** by repeating a cacophony of lyrics from Chubby Checker's "**Limbo Rock**," one thing is certain: FEMA's newest housing assistance extensions buy Texas' more than 100,000 hurricane evacuee households a little more time. FEMA issued a press release Friday, July 28, announcing that it has postponed until Oct. 31 the recertification deadline for the agency's **408 Individual Assistance Program** – the one evacuees transitioned to from the agency's **403 Emergency Sheltering Program**, where federal aid for rent and utility payments went indirectly to landlords via the city's Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Office. Also last week, FEMA sent a memo to local and state officials nationwide announcing that the remaining evacuees receiving indirect, emergency assistance – which was slated to end at the end of July – get one more month of aid.

The individual assistance deadline extension affects roughly 1,500 evacuee families in the Austin area, said **Denise Worhach**, a senior official with FEMA's Austin field office. "Approximately 16,000 evacuee households in Houston and 2,500 households in other areas of the state received rent checks to cover May, June, and July rents," according to a FEMA press release, which also notes that an estimated 30,000 evacuees nationwide whose individual assistance was slated to end July 31 "were sent letters asking them to return forms necessary to keep their housing assistance checks coming. Only about 10% did so."

"We're starting everyone over. ... They now have 90 days to get us the information they need in order to get them a rent check for November, December, and January," said FEMA spokesman **Don Jacks**, who made a plea to evacuees for expediency. "If they are part of this 408 universe, it's vital that they not put this off, that they not decide, 'Well, I'll just wait until the first of October.'" The Individual Assistance Program is currently slated to end in February.

The one-month indirect assistance extension, which, according to NHCD, affects an estimated 593 families living in Austin, is merely the latest in an ongoing series of such extensions. "We obviously don't know how many months that will go forward," said NHCD Director **Paul Hilgers** of the latest news. As **Amy Elder**, executive director of **Texas Interfaith/Interagency Disaster Response**, put it, "Our response has been one that kind of stops [and] starts, lurches. ... We didn't have a plan" for a disaster of Katrina's magnitude.

– Cheryl Smith

Bicyclists Collide in Helmet Law Debate

Helmets were needed as much for combat as for transportation safety Tuesday night, when supporters and opponents renewed their fight over a **mandatory bicycle helmet law** in a debate at the Alamo Drafthouse on South Lamar.

The resumption of the helmet wars began June 16, when former Mayor **Bruce Todd** – who originally got such a law passed in 1996, only to see it repealed in 1997 after he left office – announced he would again push for headgear on adult riders. (City code still mandates helmets for minors.) "Riding a bike is a privilege, not a right, and – just as is required when riding in a car – we must pay for that privilege by being safe," Todd announced in a press release.

At Tuesday's debate, Todd verbally sparred with **Patrick Goetz**, a UT mathematician and founding member of the just-reunited **League of Bicycling Voters**, which spearheaded the fight against the original law. Todd used both the rational and emotional to make his case – arguing that "the economic impact of even one head injury is enormous, and it's a cost we can help curtail as a community if all cyclists wear helmets," and reflecting on his own near-death cycling accident last year, which would have been fatal had he not been wearing a helmet, according to his doctors.

Todd said bike-related head injuries cause extraordinarily expensive, long-term impact to taxpayers, citing estimates that the direct cost of cyclists' injuries due to not using helmets is $81 million each year nationwide. Prompted by an audience member who suggested that Todd's remarks aptly endorsed helmet use but didn't explain why a law was needed, Todd said, "Our best experience in changing normative behavior is with a law."

Conversely, Goetz reasoned that a helmet law will distract the city from real safety measures such as defensive bicycling training, safe routes and bike lanes, and motorist bicycle awareness. He also said such laws decrease transportation bicycling trips, pointing to studies showing drops of 35% in Australia and 14% in California. As a statistician, Goetz challenged Todd's argument that helmet use will automatically equal reduced head injuries, citing local, national, and international studies that show actual increases in bicycle head injuries as helmet use rose. In his final statements, after establishing that he has been a transportation cyclist for 25 years, logging 5,000 miles per year on Austin roads, Goetz asked Todd, "Where on earth do you get the idea that you're qualified to tell me how to ride a bicycle safely?"

When asked privately about the cost of no-helmet cycling head injuries in Austin, Todd was unable to produce a precise figure, instead citing his own injury's cost of nearly $300,000. As for support from the cycling community, the **Texas Bicycle Coalition** has chosen not to weigh in on the measure and the 1,500-member **Austin Cycling Association** – which, as Todd noted in his arguments, requires helmets on all its group rides and has distributed thousands of free helmets to kids – opposes the measure. Instead, the ACA favors a "community awareness and education outreach campaign" to minimize bike crashes, including strong encouragement of bicycling and voluntary helmet use, roadway designs that accommodate bicyclists, provision of low-cost and no-cost helmets to low-income adults and children, and enforcement of existing traffic safety laws, according to President **Scott Korcz**. "I've used my bike for transportation over thousands of miles in Austin, and my helmet has never once prevented a bike crash," he said.

Polled at the end of the evening, the capacity crowd favored Goetz's opposing arguments 59 to 38. The event was sponsored by the **Dionysium**, a debate program organized by Salvage Vanguard Theatre.

The proposed helmet ordinance, sponsored by Mayor **Will Wynn** and council members **Betty Dunkerley** and **Brewster McCracken**, is set for what will no doubt be an action-packed council public hearing Aug. 24. For more info, see **www.nohelmetlaw.org** and **www.echristianpr.com/news/index.html#helmet**. *– Daniel Mottola*

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THE HIGHTOWER REPORT

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

HOW THINGS WORK IN TEXAS

Two lucky Texans are getting their dream home – a spacious apartment in a primo location. It comes rent free, all utilities paid, and with parking. Best of all, this fortunate couple is being treated to a million-dollar renovation of this fabulous property!

This might sound like one of those "extreme makeover" home shows on TV, or maybe some heartwarming story from the luxury edition of Habitat for Humanity – but, no, this is the touching tale of Tom and Nadine Craddick. He's speaker of the Texas House of Representatives and quite a wealthy fellow who already owns two other homes.

As speaker, though, Tom gets the rare political perk of living in a publicly financed apartment located inside the state Capitol, just behind the House chamber. It was renovated only a decade ago, but, alas, the historic apartment just isn't up to Tom and Nadine's fancier tastes, so they want a re-renovation, complete with a top-of-the-line kitchen redo. They feel that the existing kitchen is "woefully inadequate" for entertaining, so they want an upgrade.

Being an anti-government Republican, however, Tom rejected public funding for the project. Does that mean he put up his own money? Oh, no, no, child! He turned to his closest buddies – corporate lobbyists. Asking them for the cash, he noted that their donations would be "a lasting gift to all Texans."

That's sweet, but actually the speaker's apartment is off-limits to the public, so they'll never see their "gift." Nonetheless, such special interests as water speculators, horse-track operators, nuclear-waste dumpers, and others wanting legislative favors from Tom were quick to give. Not that there's any quid pro quo here. AT&T (which gave $250,000) claims they gave "out of [our] interest in historic preservation."

Not only do these corporate givers get on Tom's good side – they also get a tax deduction for their generosity!

GIANTS LEECHING ON SBA

You might assume that the Small Business Administration exists to help, you know, small business. But that would ignore the conniving nature of big business … and the weaseliness of the SBA.

Of course, Bush & Company constantly poses as the champion of America's small enterprises. For example, the honcho of Bush's SBA recently bragged that the agency had awarded more than a fourth of its contracts to small business, offering this as proof that "The president and his administration are committed to helping small businesses get there fair share of government contracts."

Not so fast, slick. Let's do some simple math: Of the 26 million business firms in America, 99.9% are officially considered small, so bestowing only 25% of contracts on them falls way short of being fair. Besides, shouldn't all of SBA's contracts go to small businesses? I mean … it's in your name.

It turns out that even SBA's one-fourth number is a lie, for it includes contracts awarded to huge corporations that use legal loopholes to grab money set aside for small firms. For example, Boeing has 37 of SBA's "small business" contracts, General Dynamics has 47 of them, and Northrop Grumman has 121. The trick is that these giants either set up or buy small subsidiaries that get SBA cash. As a Boeing spokesman so cleverly rationalizes this ruse, "These companies shouldn't be penalized because they are associated with a large company."

Hello … are you stupid, or do you just hope we are? Your corporate subsidiaries are not "associated with" Boeing – they're wholly owned by it, integral cogs in the Boeing machine.

Every dollar siphoned out of SBA by these connivers is a dollar denied to legitimate and deserving small businesses. To learn more and to help put the "small" back in SBA, call the Business Alliance for Local Living Economies at 415/255-1108.

For more information on Jim Hightower's work – and to subscribe to his award-winning monthly newsletter, The Hightower Lowdown – *visit* **www.jimhightower.com.**



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Having Your Baby

You're young, pregnant, and scared. Don't call us.

BY JORDAN SMITH



JANA BIRCHUM

Austin LifeCare Pregnancy Services is one of several area "crisis pregnancy centers." Whether Austin LifeCare will become part of the Texas Pregnancy Care Network is unknown – at press time, TPCN had not yet provided the state with a list of subcontracting CPCs. LifeCare is a member of the Care Net, an overtly evangelical network of CPCs whose affiliates, like LifeCare (according to the LifeCare Web site) are "committed to sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ."

The woman who answers the phone at the National Life Center, the national toll-free counseling resource hotline run by the National Right to Life Committee, sounds eerily like a South Florida retiree – let's call her "Gladys" – and she has a special affection for the word "hon." The caller tells counselor Gladys that she is a 17-year-old girl from Austin – call her "Jane Doe" – who has recently found out that she is pregnant, and she's scared – she's never been pregnant before, she hasn't told her parents, and she doesn't know where to turn for advice or for information on her available options. "You can have the baby," Gladys says helpfully. "You could put the baby up for adoption or put the baby in foster care and take the baby back later when you're ready."

But what about abortion? Can Gladys offer any information about that option? Jane tells Gladys that she knows little about abortion and wonders if it's safe.

Gladys says that while she can't refer Jane to any agency that provides abortion services or even referrals for services – because, she says, "We're pro-life" – she can confirm that abortion is a risky procedure. "Yes, it is very dangerous; that's why we don't recommend it," she says. "You may not be able to have babies later. ... Also there is the possibility of miscarriages and emotional problems further down the road from thinking about what you did."

"Wow," Jane says cautiously.

And there's more, Gladys says. "When you go do the operation, it could perforate the inside when they're trying to get the baby out. They could accidentally tear you to the point that you couldn't be repaired, and you wouldn't be able to have babies anymore." But the "highest risk" in having an abortion "is of guilt and emotional problems. Women call and say, 'I had an abortion 30 years ago, and I still feel guilty,'" Gladys says. "Unfortunately, this is what the clinics don't tell you – they say you can just have this done and go on about your life."

One counseling center told callers that post-abortion stress is "much like" the stress experienced by soldiers returning from the Vietnam War and that it's "something that anyone who's had an abortion is sure to suffer from."

In parting, Gladys offers the number of a local crisis pregnancy center and wishes the caller luck in making her decision.

Tales of Terror

As it turns out, the information – or misinformation – Gladys offered this pseudonymous caller from Austin is very similar to that collected by congressional researchers who, at the request of Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., were tasked with finding out exactly what kind of information various crisis pregnancy centers (or "pregnancy resource centers") across the country are offering female callers. Since 2001, CPCs have become increasingly prominent players in the politics of women's reproductive rights, bolstered by nearly $30 million in federal funding – monies either earmarked for abstinence-only sex-education programs or diverted from other federal programs including, prominently, Title X, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families welfare program funds that traditionally provided cash assistance to poor families to pay for basics such as child care. Indeed, in the last state legislative session, Texas lawmakers, at the behest of Sen. Tommy Williams, R-The Woodlands, set aside $5 million in Title X funds over the biennium to fund Williams' "alternatives-to-abortion" services program – using CPCs, unlicensed and unregulated "support" centers that offer no medical services whatsoever – to implement a "statewide program for women seeking alternatives to abortion focused on pregnancy support services that promote childbirth."

CPCs do not typically employ medical professionals or offer any real medical services, and they are, by and large, run by openly pro-life organizations. Many lawmakers and reproductive-rights advocates question CPC counseling strategies and wonder if the information dispensed is actually medically accurate – and what benefit taxpayers will reap from Williams' abortion-alternatives program.

For the Waxman-requested study, released in July, female investigators with the Special Investigations Division of the Committee on Government Reform, posing as pregnant 17-year-old girls, contacted 23 federally funded CPCs to request information and advice "regarding an unintended pregnancy." The results were striking: 87% of the centers "provided false or misleading information about the health effects of abortion," according to the report. "Often these … centers grossly misrepresented the medical risks of abortion, telling the callers that having an abortion could increase the risk of breast cancer, result in sterility, and lead to suicide and 'post-abortion stress disorder.'"

As with the information Gladys imparted to the *Chronicle*'s teen caller, "Jane," the congressional investigators were fed scary information about the potential for "permanent damage" that would prevent a woman from bearing children in the future (a "common" problem, one center told investigators), about how an abortion will increase the likelihood of contracting breast cancer, and about the lasting psychological stress that comes with abortion. One center told Waxman's investigators that post-abortion stress is "much like" the stress experienced by soldiers returning from the Vietnam War and that it's "something that anyone who's had an abortion is sure to suffer from."

Unfortunately, none of the information is medically accurate. Abortion does not cause infertility; neither the American Psychological Association nor the American Psychiatric Association recognizes "post-abortion syndrome" (rather, the report notes that there is a scientific consensus that abortion rarely causes any psychological harm); nor is there any statistical or causal link between induced abortion and an increased risk of breast cancer – although pro-life groups continue to use scientifically ancient and discredited studies to suggest that the question remains open for debate. In 2002, the Bush administration edited a National Cancer Institute Web page to suggest there might be a link. When Waxman complained, the NCI convened a panel of medical experts that reviewed all the available data – some 50 years of research – and concluded that it is "well-established" that "induced abortion is not associated with an increase in breast cancer risk."

Nevertheless, many CPCs and other pro-life groups continue to claim a link – as does the state of Texas in its "A Woman's Right to Know" pamphlet, created by the Health Department pursuant to 2003 legislation authored by Rep. Frank Corte, R-San Antonio, which requires "full disclosure" of health risks associated with abortion and pregnancy.

In short, Texas is spending tax dollars to disseminate incorrect medical information. "This [information] may advance the mission of the pregnancy resource centers, which are typically pro-life organizations dedicated to preventing abortion," reads the Waxman report, "but it is an inappropriate public health practice."

Money for Nothing

Sarah Wheat, executive director of NARAL Pro-Choice Texas, isn't surprised by the information collected by Waxman's investigators. CPCs use "alarmist scare tactics based on mythical and bogus medical information" to dissuade women from choosing abortion, she says. "We've made calls [to local CPCs] with real

continued on p.28

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basic questions about safe and legal abortions, and this is standard operating procedure." Wheat says she is encouraged by the Waxman report, which she hopes will serve as an "alarm bell" for federal and state lawmakers. "This is a terrible offense to women's health," she says. "It is an incredible misuse of taxpayer money and a sign of deep disrespect." The timing of the report couldn't be better, she says, coming just weeks before Texas' federally funded alternatives-to-abortion services program will begin offering counseling services. The Waxman report offers a glimpse of "just where we're headed with this [program]."

On Aug. 6, the alternatives-to-abortion services program will officially begin its statewide mission of "promoting childbirth." At the helm is the Texas Pregnancy Care Network, which formed last summer in response to the new funding opportunity and won Health and Human Services Commission approval to administer the multimillion-dollar contract. TPCN is responsible for recruiting subcontractors, individual CPCs across the state that will do the direct counseling. In the first year, TPCN expects to have 20 subcontracted CPCs in the statewide counseling network; TPCN will monitor the information the counselors provide and reimburse the individual centers.

Although the contract was signed in March, the TPCN-coordinated program hasn't yet begun serving clients, yet the HHSC reports that the organization has already been paid close to $600,000. What the state has gotten for its money isn't clear, but it appears that the TPCN is already outspending its proposed budget. According to its HHSC proposal, from March to August the group estimated a total cost of just more than $350,000 to run the program – including nearly $132,000 to reimburse individual CPCs. Since there hasn't yet been any program-related counseling, not a dime of that $600,000 has been spent on the program's stated purpose.

According to HHSC acting spokesman Michael Jones, TPCN has been given funds for start-up costs – including office and equipment rentals and costs associated with program "automation," seemingly related to the proprietary operations model designed by Pennsylvania-based Real Alternatives, a CPC powerhouse that runs that state's equivalent program. Jones says that RA is "actually going to help guide the development of this whole program" and will continue to "give support" to TPCN. (Without RA's involvement, it is unlikely that the TPCN would've been able to meet the HHSC requirement that bidders have relevant experience; among TPCN's board of directors are an oil and gas man, a NASA doctor, and an assistant attorney general – none of whom list any clearly relevant experience in their submitted résumés.)

TPCN has already been paid close to $600,000. Their original proposed budget for the period was just more than $350,000 – including nearly $132,000 to reimburse individual CPCs (which haven't yet been paid).

The fact that the state has already forked over so much cash to TPCN before it has served a single client infuriates Wheat, who notes that the money would otherwise be spent providing comprehensive family-planning and reproductive services for low-income women. There are more than 1 million Texas women in need of such services, and only about 250,000 are served under current funding models. "That's outrageous," she says. "Had [Williams] not made [the alternatives program], women would be getting medical care right now. Now they're getting nothing."

What women will be getting instead, once the TPCN starts services, is also unclear. TPCN board Chairman James Wolfskill of Bellville (who apparently heads a "manufacturers' representative firm providing sales and services to the power-generation industry within Texas and Oklahoma") did not return phone calls requesting information for this story. But under the HHSC contract agreement, TPCN is supposed to be running a statewide toll-free counseling and referral hotline (888/LIFE-AID) and making all its educational materials available for HHSC review, to ensure that providers are giving standardized and medically accurate information. Yet TPCN has not yet provided any materials to HHSC for review, nor has it provided the agency with the names of its subcontracting CPCs.

According to Jones, at the end of July, having already spent $600,000, TPCN was still recruiting providers. If they plan to deliver information of the sort routinely provided by the National Life Center and its local colleagues, neither the women in need nor the state of Texas will be well-served. ■

Pregnant? Need Help? Don't Call Us.

Since Texas Pregnancy Care Network counseling materials have not yet been released, the *Chronicle* decided to make a few calls to see what kind of information area "crisis pregnancy centers" are currently providing. We recruited a local woman, who agreed to pose as a scared, confused, and pregnant 17-year-old, and listened in on her calls as she sought help and advice. What we found is that getting good information and advice over the phone from area "crisis pregnancy" counselors is not easy. An Austin LifeCare Pregnancy Services counselor was hesitant to offer much counsel over the phone; she wanted to meet our caller in person in an effort to "know more about what resources you have and what your [life is like] and how a pregnancy would fit in." She said that the center had videos and pamphlets outlining the "parenting option, the abortion option, and the adoption option" and that she could help with role-playing exercises to help our caller figure out how to tell her parents about her unintended pregnancy. "Maybe it's not what they wanted for you, but it's not like you robbed a bank, are a heroin addict, or were in a horrible car accident and are a quadriplegic," she said. "It's not an unnatural event." She declined to offer any information on abortion, except to suggest that the caller read the state's "A Woman's Right to Know" pamphlet.

Our caller got even less help from the Lifeline pregnancy center near campus. After she nervously recounted her current situation, the counselor responded, "So you're freaking out a little bit?" Not to worry, the counselor said. "The most important thing to do first is to go see a doctor so that you can get checked out and start taking prenatal vitamins." When the caller said that she wasn't sure she wanted to keep the baby, the counselor said she couldn't help and wouldn't "even know" who to call to find out about abortion services. But she did have a couple of suggestions – including that our caller could try the 888/LIFE-AID crisis counseling hotline, a toll-free CPC referral service run by Real Alternatives, which provides counseling services for the newly state-funded TPCN. Still, she warned, if the caller planned on contacting Life Aid, she should probably avoid asking too much about abortion, "because they're pro-life."

Regardless, Life Aid couldn't offer our caller much help at all – the hotline hasn't been set up in Texas, so the woman who answered our call could suggest only that we call the National Life Center for further assistance. That's where our caller found "Gladys," who warned that abortion carries with it a "high risk" of uterine "perforation" and a lifetime of serious emotional problems. "There are all sorts of side effects," Gladys warns. "That's just one of them. We like to let women know exactly what can happen." – *J.S.*

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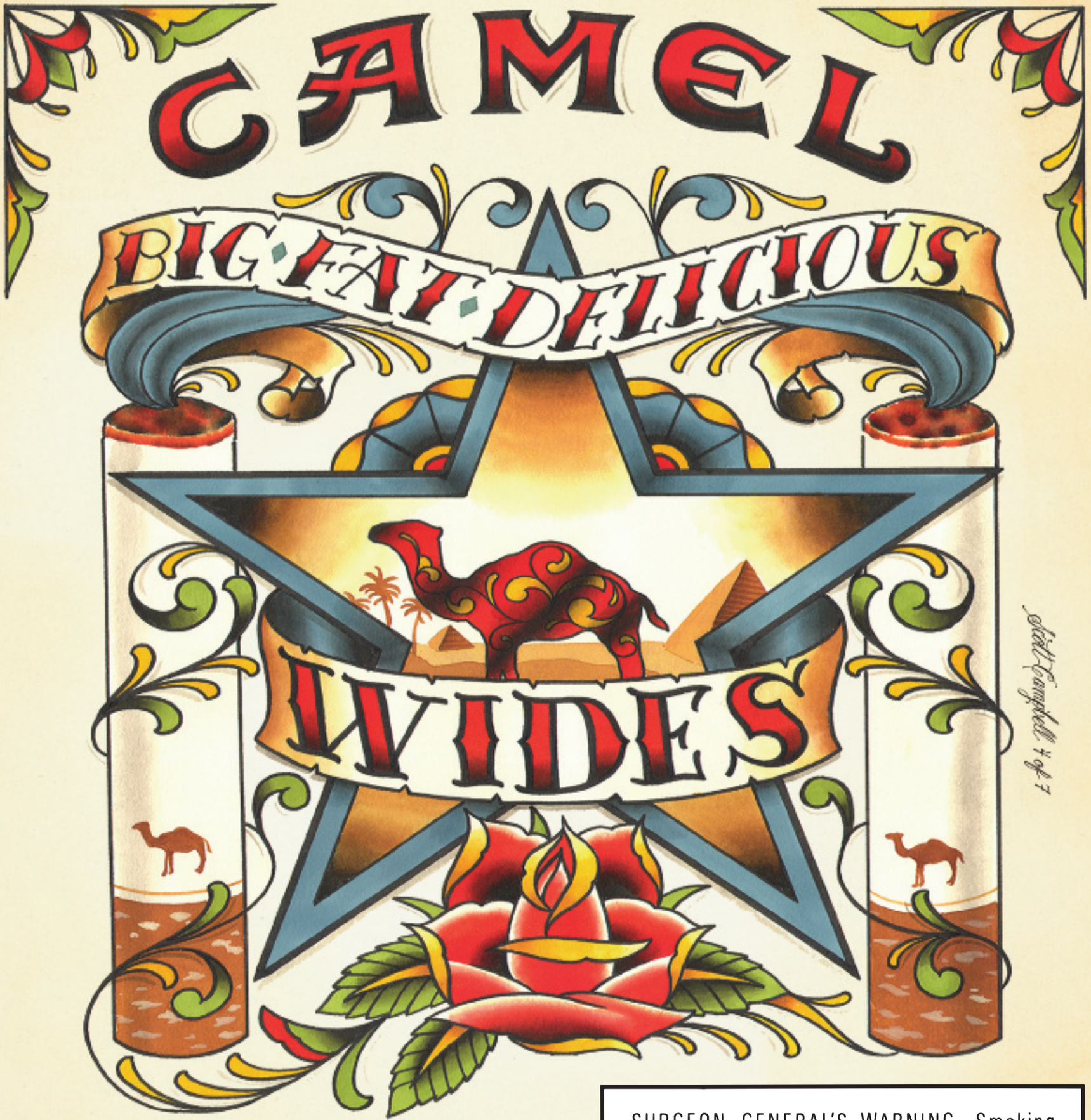
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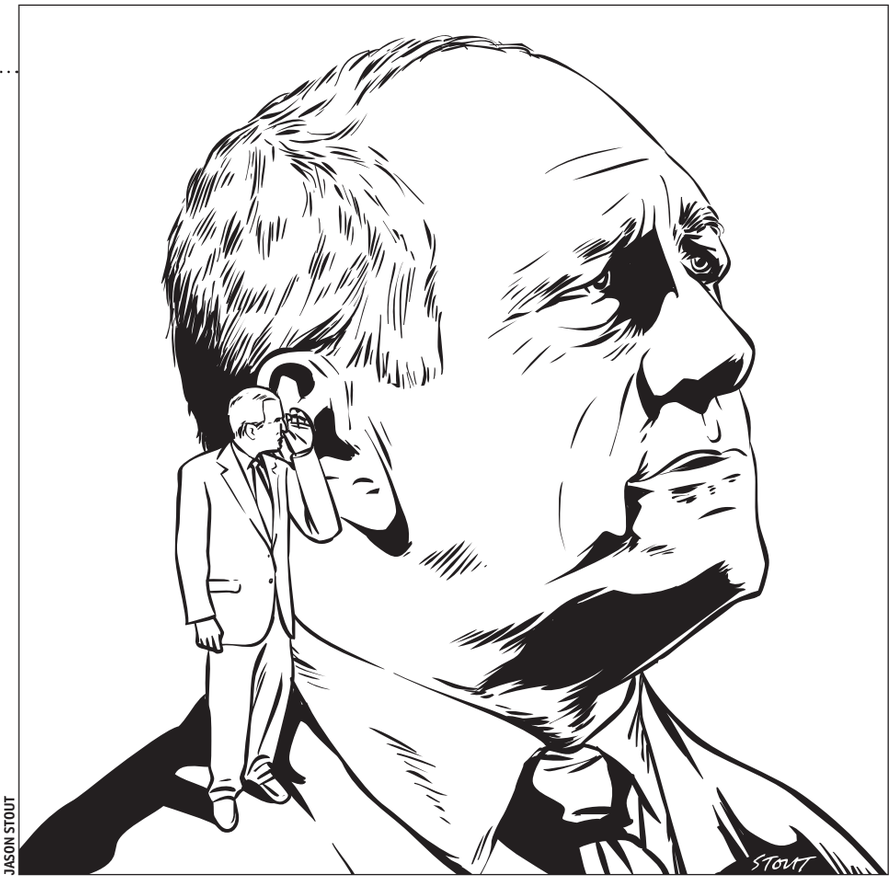
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Ludicrous Positions

BY MICHAEL VENTURA



JASON STOUT

Israel – no country so tiny has ever generated so many headlines. The *Encyclopaedia Britannica Almanac 2006* lists Israel's population at 6.5 million – 1.5 million less than New York City's. Area: 8,367 square miles, a thousand square miles smaller than New Hampshire. No natural resources to speak of. Average income: $16,020. Under "production" the *Almanac* lists manufacturing, electronics, and some minor agriculture – but fails to mention Israel's well-known arms industry, which was not above selling 508 TOW missiles to Iran (yes, Iran) in 1985 (*Newsday*, March 1, 1987). But the figure that leaps out of the *Britannica Almanac*'s list is Israel's national debt: $111.6 billion.

That money mostly comes from United States taxpayers. No practical person expects such a tiny country, with no natural resources and a minimal per capita income, to repay $111.6 billion anytime soon. Or anytime ever. The "loan" is a continuing subsidy, the cost of doing business if the U.S. is to have a strategic client-state in the Middle East. As MSNBC's Tucker Carlson observed, Israeli soldiers go into battle "with the words 'property of the United States' on their rifles" (July 21). That's true in many more ways than one, and it is why Europe, Russia, China, and the Muslim world hold the United States accountable for any action of Israel's.

The greatest danger to Israel, in the long term, is its dependence on the United States.

It's widely reported that at present our government borrows $2 billion a day (mostly from China) to stay solvent. Even with these loans, the strain of Iraq has placed the U.S. Army in big trouble. *The Christian Science Monitor* (July 24, p.1): "The service is fast running out of money. ... Like many bases, Fort Carson in Colorado has [tightened its belt], closing two mess halls and skimping on staffing – even at a time when the base is growing. ... The picture that emerges is that the Army simply can't make ends meet." Military expert U.S. Rep. John Murtha, *The Christian Science Monitor* (July 24, p.3): "We have no strategic reserve. Our forces in the United States, 70% of them, are below deployable level overseas. … The Army is struggling every day to meet their bills. It is a disaster." It is hard to imagine a greater danger sign for our or Israel's future. If our government is having trouble keeping its army intact, what will that mean for Israel's military?

Israel's foreign policy has been predicated on the United States remaining a superpower indefinitely. But nothing goes on indefinitely, and it is questionable whether a nation that must borrow $2 billion a day is still a "super" power. When it is no longer in the strategic interests of China to support our consumerism (and that day will come), what happens to Israel? Nations are coldhearted; they rarely do what, in their vision (however flawed or blind), is not in their interest. No one but the U.S. has a strategic interest in Israel; it benefits no one else to support it financially. If the day comes that we cannot, then, having followed our lead in alienating most of the world, how does Israel survive? Can it?

That dire question is for the future to answer. The present crisis is another matter.

So much havoc because three soldiers were kidnapped? As Roky Erickson said in another context, "You can believe that story if you want to." *The New York Times* (June 27, p.8): "Israel has at times made deals and exchanged prisoners. In October 2000, Hezbollah abducted three Israeli soldiers in an effort to free imprisoned leaders." The soldiers were murdered. "The same month Hezbollah abducted … an Israeli civilian … in exchange for the three dead soldiers and the [civilian's] release. … Israel released more than 430 prisoners in January of 2004." What's changed so much since then? Iran's nuclear program has become an unavoidable, and perhaps intractable, issue.

Is it a coincidence that violence escalated into Lebanon the day George Bush was in St. Petersburg for the G8 conference? The common line, parroted by every talking head I witnessed, is that Iran instructed Hezbollah to kidnap the soldiers and fire some rockets to prove something to the G8 conference. That's possible. But, as events later proved, Russian President Vladimir Putin was firmly in Iran's corner at the G8. It strains credulity that Russia would have kept its support secret from Iran before the G8. With or without Iran's instigation, Hezbollah selected that day as an auspicious one to jump into the fray in support of Palestine's Hamas, which had been in furious contest with Israel since June 25. But Hezbollah's action was not terribly out of the ordinary. So why the escalation?

(Speaking of possibilities: Rockets were fired, but there is no proof who fired them; people were kidnapped, but there's no proof who kidnapped them; and there's no proof that some Hezbollah cell or other hasn't been co-opted by other powers. We must always remember that, in these matters, we're taking the word of official press releases. It's perfectly in character that Hezbollah performed these actions on its own or with Iranian instigation. But, in fact, you and I know nothing for certain.)

Again: Why Israel's massive escalation on that day? George Bush is in Russia face-to-face with leaders of the world's great powers. It simply is not credible that, at such a crucial juncture, the guy who's paying the freight doesn't have final say on whether or not such an escalation takes place. Whatever the provocation, the scale of escalation was a Bush-Cheney decision because, I believe, a larger plan was envisioned.

The initial Israeli reason given for the devastating bombing of Lebanon's infrastructure that day was "Hezbollah plans to transfer the kidnapped soldiers to Iran" (*The New York Times*, July 14, p.1). Next step: action against Iran.

But action against Iran would entail economic disruption – gas prices would shoot up to $4.50 a gallon, easy. Bush needed G8 support for such disruption. He came to the G8 with a very large carrot for Vladimir Putin, something Putin has desired very much: Russian entry into the World Trade Organization. For weeks,

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reports from all quarters signaled that the U.S. was ready for Russian entry to the WTO. According to *The Christian Science Monitor* (July 14, p.5): "Analysts say this 'carrot' that the White House is dangling is really more about Iran and winning Russia's support for a tougher stance." A much tougher stance. Action of some sort.

Putin turned Bush down flat. As much as he's wanted membership in the WTO, whatever Bush was planning for Iran was too high a price. That is the only way to make sense of Putin's statement after Bush blocked membership: "We will not participate in any crusade, in any holy alliances."

Putin made a point of calling the Iranians "our partners." Russia has oil. Lots. That oil could have mitigated the effects of an attack on Iran. Putin said no. In no uncertain terms. By his language he said clearly that anyone attacking Iran is attacking "our partners."

Then Bush "pressed to cite Iran and Syria in the joint [G8] statement with the other leaders and suggested that both countries were involved, if indirectly, in the attacks on Israel" (*The New York Times*, July 17, p.10). Putin blocked that. And told the world that he blocked it. The U.S. would have no statement from the world's major powers that excused any action against Iran. Like magic, Israel published no more statements about kidnapped soldiers being whisked to Iran.

Bush thought he could buy Russia's collusion on Iran with a WTO membership. It didn't work. And Israel and Lebanon are left holding the very bloody bag. Palestinians, too.

Poor Israel. So foolish as to trust the United States – not that, at this point, it has any choice. "Property of the United States" is engraved on its rifles, and now no one else has any interest in giving it more rifles. Or anything else.

Meanwhile, the U.S. had defended the ludicrous position of denying accountability for Israel's actions. In a press conference, White House spokesman Tony Snow declared, "We're not engaged in any strategy session with the Israelis, we're not cooperating, we're not conspiring" (CNN, July 19). The very same hour, in Tel Aviv, *The Christian Science Monitor*'s Rafael Franco told MSNBC that high Israeli officials "told me they're in close conversation with the U.S. … It's coordinated at the very highest levels."

High levels of government, yes. High levels of behavior – ludicrous.

Or it would be, if it weren't so terribly bloody. ■

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The Real CRASH DAVIS

The Express' Alan Zinter works for one more chance at the Show

BY KEVIN BRASS

When asked if he ever thinks about quitting, Alan Zinter looks you straight in the eye, barely blinking, not a hint of a smile on his face. Never, he says. Never in the 17 years of slogging through the minor leagues, barely grasping the dream of playing big-league baseball, did he ever think about giving it up. "If it creeps into your mind," he said, "you just put it away."

He never let the bitterness take over, even in the years when he was stroking the ball, only to get passed over again and again for the promotion to the majors. "I was able to channel that to fuel me for the next year, to prove that next year is going to be the year," he said. And when next year turned into next year, he says, he never let the frustration eat away at him. "I would never, ever let that sway me to say, 'I'm done with this, screw this,'" he said, his eyes never wavering. "I can't do that. I love this game."

And now he's the old guy – a buff 38-year-old, trying to stick as a pinch hitter for the triple-A Round Rock Express. He still prepares every day for that call from the Houston Astros, the chance to play in the big leagues for just a few more games. He knows his days as a starter are done. If he's lucky he'll get one at-bat a game, a few minutes to prove he's a professional hitter, valuable for a stretch run. Maybe he'll get a pitch, maybe he won't.

Maybe he'll get a pitch, maybe he won't. Most nights he'll be lucky to get one chance at the plate.

On one steamy summer night this season, the chance came in the seventh inning of a 0-0 game. He strode up to the plate hitting about .220. The night before, the stands had been packed to see big-league legend Roger Clemens pitch, but this was just another minor-league game against New Orleans. There were two outs. Bases loaded. Zinter bore down, took the count to 3-2; worked the pitcher. Be aggressive, he mumbled to himself. He fouled off a fastball. The next pitch was a hard sinker. Zinter slapped it to left to score two runs. The Express won 2-0 and the *Austin American-Statesman*'s page 4 coverage the next morning included the subhead, "Zinter's RBI single lifts Round Rock to five-game sweep." For one more night the dream lived on – Zinter's long chase of the little boy's fantasy was a bit closer to reality.

Slipping Away

In many ways, Zinter is the real Crash Davis, the perennial minor leaguer portrayed by Kevin Costner in *Bull Durham*. Davis had the dubious honor of setting a minor-league record for home runs; Zinter, a switch-hitting first baseman, is among the leaders of the modern era, with 245 dingers. He has compiled more than 5,500 minor league at-bats, an achievement in itself.

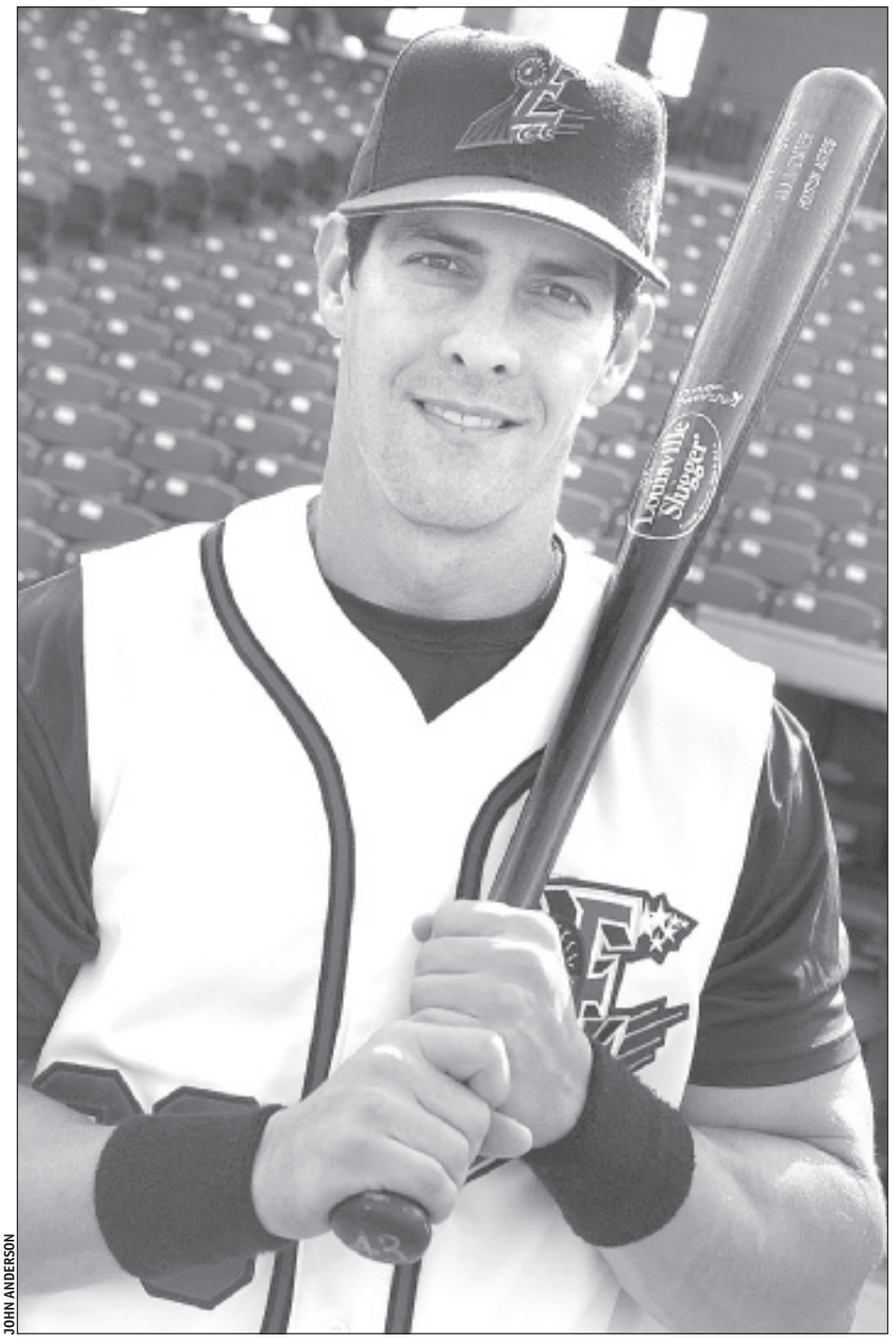
There are always a few old guys toiling in the minors. But usually they are specialists, like catchers and left-handed pitchers, players the teams stash on rosters as insurance against injuries. Or they are veteran big leaguers looking to recapture the magic. But a position player with 17 years of experience in the minors is a novelty. Most simply give up. They move on with their lives. It's no longer worth it to put real life on hold.

Zinter's story "is very rare," said Alan Schwarz, senior writer for *Baseball America*. "It's a wonderful story that indicates the passion some young men have for the game." But there's a "dark side" to Zinter's story, Schwarz said. "For every Alan Zinter there are 20 guys who don't make it and they retire with three kids, a divorced wife, and no college degree."

Like Crash, Zinter has briefly been to "The Show." On June 18, 2002, after 14 years in the minors, he pinch-hit against the Milwaukee Brewers, grounding out to first base against Ben Sheets. "It was the coolest groundout I had ever had in my life," Zinter said. His long road to the majors became national news. *USA Today* wrote about him. Camera crews followed his progress. His first hit was a home run. Baseball is overmythologized and certainly over-Kevin Costnered, but it is a sport unique in its ability to create fables. And there was no mistaking the drama of Zinter's journey.

"When I stepped back and thought about it, I realized, 'Wow, this doesn't happen every day,'" Zinter recalled, still shaking his head at the memory as he relaxed before a game in one of the rocking chairs in the left field stands at Dell Diamond. Asked if getting to the big leagues met his expectations, he sounded wistful. "It was better than I thought."

But after the celebration subsided, cold reality returned. He ended up getting only 44 at-bats in 39 games with the Astros, posting a .136 average with two home runs. The next year he was back in triple-A. He spent two injury-plagued years with New Orleans, then the Astros' triple-A club. The call to return to the Astros never came. The next spring he decided to try to catch on with the Arizona Diamondbacks.



JOHN ANDERSON

It looked like a good move. The Diamondbacks called him up for 28 games, and when they sent him down, he was pounding the ball at triple-A Tucson, hitting .335 with seven home runs in 54 games – the type of numbers that get noticed. But a year later he hurt his shoulder, a torn labrum that ended his season, and the D-backs were dreadful. By the end of the season the organization was in disarray and committed to a new youth movement. Zinter wasn't offered a new contract.

He spent the off-season enduring an agonizing rehab for his shoulder. Every morning from 7:30 to 1pm he was in the gym. "There were days after surgery I thought I'd never move my arm again," he said. "I'd have good days, bad days … bad weeks."

His career was at a crossroads. He didn't have a job. Nobody was interested in a 37-year-old coming off an injury. He had no gaudy numbers to show teams, no recent hot streak to demonstrate he was ready to do damage in the bigs. He called the Astros looking for a job. "It wasn't like teams were banging down my door," Zinter said. He told David Gottfried, the Astros' senior director of baseball operations, "You guys know me, and if there is an opportunity, please give me a call."

In its unforgiving way, the game was telling him it might be time to move on, but Zinter insists he never considered walking away. "It was not an option," he said. "I really needed to come back and play after the surgery." He wants to be a manager some day, but that wasn't on his mind. "I was in better shape than I'd ever been in my life," he said. "There is no reason I can't continue to play."

The call to work as a pinch hitter in Round Rock was a chance, and that's all he wanted. "I don't want age or numbers to tell me it's time for me to stop."

"For every Alan Zinter there are 20 guys who don't make it and they retire with three kids, a divorced wife, and no college degree."

– Alan Schwarz,
Baseball America

The Mental Game

When Alan Zinter was little more than a year old, his father put a plastic bat in his hands. By the time he was 2, Al Zinter was showing his little boy how to swing left-handed, so when he grew up he might develop into a switch-hitter. "This way he didn't know any better," said Al Zinter, recalling his infant son's development as a batter.

A former utility player for the University of Minnesota who never quite cracked the starting lineup, the elder Zinter vowed to pass on his knowledge and love of the game to his son. Growing up in El Paso, little Alan religiously wore a Minnesota Twins uniform. Each day when his dad came home from work at the natural gas company, Alan would grab him and pull him outside to play ball. "I didn't have to push him," Al Zinter said. "He always had the love of the game."

By the time he was a junior in high school, the scouts were watching young Alan, who could hit for average and power. He would have been a high draft pick out of high school, but instead he followed his parent's wishes and enrolled at the University of Arizona. But there was no doubt his future was in baseball. After his junior year, he was drafted in the first round by the New York Mets, signing for a $123,000 bonus. It was 1989. Ronald Reagan was president. Paula Abdul was queen of the pop charts. And Alan Zinter was on the fast track to the Show.

But he struggled from the very start. There were moments of beauty, when his swing would connect and he looked like a star. He was a legend in batting practice, slamming the ball around the field. But in games something happened. He tightened up. Every bad game would lead to re-evaluation and reassessment. The bad days ate at him.

"Failure was almost unacceptable to me," Zinter said. "I was trying to be perfect in a game that isn't perfect." He was losing the mental game. In 1993, after five seasons in the Mets organization, he was mired at double-A Binghamton, hitting a respectable but unspectacular .264 with 24 home runs.

In 1994 the Mets traded him to the Tigers for Rico Brogna, a first baseman with similar numbers who made it to the Mets the next year. Meanwhile, Zinter posted two mediocre seasons playing for the Toledo Mud Hens, the Tigers' triple-A club. He hit bunches of home runs, but his batting average wallowed around .250. With little hope of moving up to the Tigers, in 1996, as a minor-league free agent, he decided to move to the Boston Red Sox.

continued on p.34

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"I don't want age or numbers to tell me it's time for me to stop."



JANA BIRCHUM

In spring training with the Red Sox, it was the same story. When he struggled, he started tinkering with his swing, returning to the batting cage for more work after every strikeout, every groundout. "It was something I hated to do, but I did it all the time," he said.

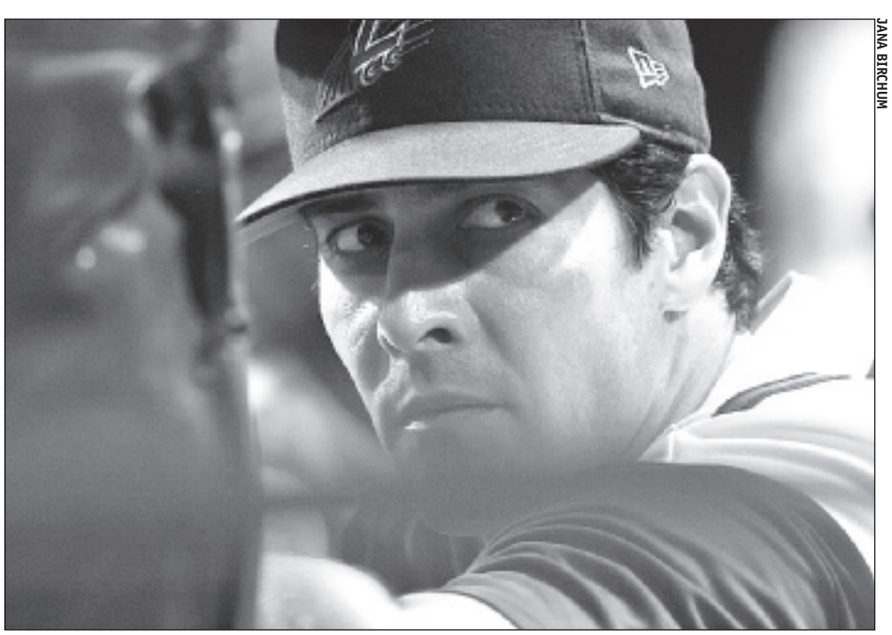
But then it all started to turn around. Red Sox pitcher Jeff Suppan, now with the St. Louis Cardinals, gave him a book to read about the mental approach to the game. Over and over again he recognized himself in the "things not to do" section. "I took it upon myself to change the way I thought," he said. He had to force himself to be positive, to not get down on himself. "I had such bad habits mentally that it was very difficult in the beginning," he said. "It's easy to go back and be scared." He would write things down and force himself to concentrate. In the batter's box, he could be seen talking to himself, repeating positive thoughts: "be aggressive" … "see the ball" … "crush the ball." "I had to mumble them out loud, good thoughts," he said. "It's a repetitive thing … so I don't *think*."

It worked. He loosened up. Baseball became fun again. "I just played," he said. "If I failed I went and played the next day, rather than spending all my energy and passion in the batting cage trying to fix things."

In 1996, he pounded the ball for Pawtucket, the Red Sox's triple-A club, hitting .269 with 26 home runs. But he was stuck behind Mo Vaughn, the Red Sox first baseman, one of the game's premier hitters. So the next year, he signed with the Seattle Mariners (and the next season Vaughn blew out his knee). With Tacoma, the Mariner's triple-A club, Zinter continued to hit with power, but the Mariners had all-star Tino Martinez entrenched at first base. So a year later, Zinter moved to the Cubs.

In 1998, Zinter produced his best year as a professional, batting .310 with 23 home runs for Iowa, the Cubs' triple-A club. The next spring, it looked like he would make the big-league club – but he was sent down to the minors before opening day, one of the last guys cut. "That's an eye-opening experience," he said. He was back in Iowa. It was snowing. He had never made more than $60,000 a year playing baseball. And then his agent called with a $400,000 offer to play in Japan. He didn't want to leave. But he couldn't pass it up. "I hadn't made any money at that point and there were no guarantees [with the Cubs]," he said.

Zinter terms Japan "a great experience." "I was treated as a superstar; that was kind of weird," he said. But after a year with the Seibu Lions, he wasn't offered a new contract. He returned to the United States and started bouncing around the minors – from the Cubs, to the Diamondbacks, to the Astros. He continued to hit; but he wasn't posting the big-bopper numbers. And suddenly he started to notice a subtle but distinct change. In baseball's evaluation process, he was no longer "the prospect." Now he was just a guy in his 30s who had never made it to the big leagues.


JANA BIRCHUM

Role Player

To steal a line from legendary sportswriter Frank Deford, playing in triple-A is like being the world's tallest midget. You are the best of the guys who haven't quite made it. Many can't handle the frustration of believing they can play at the next level, only to be passed over by management. Others realize that they are never going to compete with the stars and accept it, and decide to give it up and return to the real world.

"For these guys who have true love and passion for the game, the game comes first," said former UT star Danny Peoples. Like Zinter, he was a bonus-baby draft pick, an outfielder projected for great things. He spent five years in the minors before getting a shot to play 31 days with the Indians. Then he was traded to the Mets, part of a deal involving fading all-star Roberto Alomar. When he didn't make the team and was sent back to the minors, he decided to walk away from the game. "I wasn't going to make baseball my number-one priority in life," he said.

Peoples went through a thought process faced by most ballplayers, the ones that don't develop into stars. He realized that he wasn't going to be that big-time player with a no-trade clause. He didn't want to become a journeyman, his fate left to the whims of general managers. "It takes a tremendous amount of courage to continue to play the game," Peoples said, "when people are saying you can't do it."

Nobody gets rich in the minor leagues – young players get flashy bonuses when they first sign with a team, but they don't see any steady money until they make the big leagues. First-year players in triple-A often average about $3,000 a month during the season, plus a $20 per diem for road games. Although it is difficult to quantify – there is no players' association for the minors – the typical triple-A player makes about $50,000 a year. And if they hope to maintain their skills and get noticed, they can't simply sell used cars in the offseason. Most play winter ball in places like Venezuela and the Dominican Republic to stay sharp and to help pay the bills. But triple-A ball is no longer the dank, dreary experience of past years. Many of

"It takes a tremendous amount of courage to continue to play the game when people are saying you can't do it."
– former ballplayer Danny Peoples

the stadiums, like Round Rock's Dell Diamond, are beautiful places to play, modern facilities with pools and grassy lawns for the fans.

In many ways Zinter is lucky. He hasn't been alone on his minor-league odyssey. In 1992 he married Yvonne, whom he first met when they were in middle school in El Paso. From Pawtucket to Tacoma to Japan, "She's gone everywhere with me," he said. They have two children, Michael, 5, and Franklin, 3. They own a house outside Tucson, and during the season are living in a rented apartment in Round Rock.

"In reality, I have a great life," said Zinter, as he sat on a stool in the Express' well-adorned locker room, 2½ hours before game time. "I haven't grown up. I don't have to go into the real world to get a job." A TV was on and several players were gathered around a table playing cribbage. "Are you ready?" Zinter called to a young pitcher watching the game. Batting practice ended 15 minutes ago, but Zinter wanted to hit a few more balls in the batting cage. He bounced up and headed down the hallway, bats in hand.

"You'll never see him sitting around idle," said Round Rock manager Jackie Moore. "He's always doing something. Stretching. Swinging a bat. Or the weight room. And there's a reason guys like that stick around as long as they do."

Zinter is 6 feet 2 inches, 195 pounds, and there's no fat on his frame. He often hits the weights before or after games, just for the work. While he doesn't look old, most of his teammates are in their early 20s, really just kids. He's known as a quiet guy, not a rah-rah cheerleader type. But he often finds himself talking to the young players, trying to help them with the aspects of the game that their talent can't control.

"He always tells me, even if you're struggling, you want to feel like you're the best hitter out there," said outfielder Mike Rodriguez, who was 9 years old when Zinter was drafted by the Mets. "His attitude is upbeat. He always comes to the park happy. I look up to a guy like that."

Zinter doesn't like to talk about his aspirations to manage – he sees it as a goal for down the road at that undefined time when he's done playing – but it's no secret. "I think baseball needs these kinds of individuals to move into a different role," said Express manager Moore. "You don't have to be around Alan long to realize what he brings to the table – his love of baseball, dedication, what he can pass along in the clubhouse to these young players."

Zinter has no illusions about his role with the Express. Minor-league teams exist to develop a few star youngsters, the bonus babies earmarked as future big-league starters. No matter how well he plays, Zinter is not going to battle the youngsters for playing time. His job is to be a pinch hitter, one of the sports world's more peculiar jobs. Most athletes perform at their peak when their heart is racing and the adrenalin is pumping. A pinch hitter is called on to perform in the most pressure-packed situations after hours spent waiting, not knowing if he'll even get a chance to bat.

During games Zinter can be seen pacing the dugout, stretching on the steps and swinging a bat in a corner, working on his stance. He studies the pitchers, carefully, watching how they're working hitters. "That's my role, coming off the bench, so I want to be the best bench player," Zinter said. "So if I do get the call, I've been doing it down here and doing it well."

"In reality, I have a great life. I haven't grown up. I don't have to go into the real world to get a job."
– Alan Zinter

Getting the call is all about making himself valuable. Every night he carries around his catcher's gear, even though he hasn't played catcher in a game in months. It's just a reminder that he can still fill in as a backup catcher, in case of emergency. It's one more way he can help the team, one more way to show the team he's not simply one of those old guys hanging on past his prime.

"There's a few out there," Moore said. "This has been their life. At this level they can make a living at it, and I know if you ask any of them out there, their dream is to get a break and go back to the Show. And who is to say it's not going to happen?"

Being Patient

If Zinter has a hero right now, it's Julio Franco. At something like 47, Franco is a valuable role player for the contending Mets, helping the team as a pinch hitter. If Franco can do it, why not me? Zinter asks.

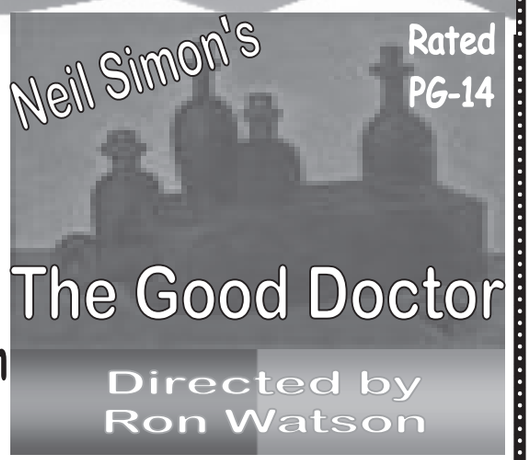
He can still jack the ball. In June, in a rare start against Oklahoma, he hit two home runs – one from each side of the plate. But that was followed by a long stretch of games without getting a single at-bat. Or he was called on to pinch-hit, only to strike out and fail. That's baseball. At the end of July, he was hitting .248 with nine home runs.

"He has certainly shown this year that he can be that bat off the bench," said Gottfried, the Astros' senior director of baseball operations. In September, big-league rosters are expanded and additional players are called up, but there are no guarantees. "It's just day-to-day," Gottfried said. Injuries, trades, slumps – the situation can change quickly. "Right now his chances are as good as anyone else's," Gottfried said.

If he can make it back to the majors, even if it's only for a few more games, to play in the big stadiums with the perfectly manicured fields and face the Hall of Fame pitchers for a few more at-bats, it will be worth it, Zinter said. "I know I can still play," he said. "I just have to be patient." If anything, his journey is evidence that there is little assurance of success. "It may not happen again, it might happen tomorrow," he said. "You just don't know and that keeps you going."

One person who still believes is his father, who taught him to switch-hit all those years ago. "They say you need a little boy in you," Al Zinter said, "and he still has a whole bunch of the little boy in him." ■

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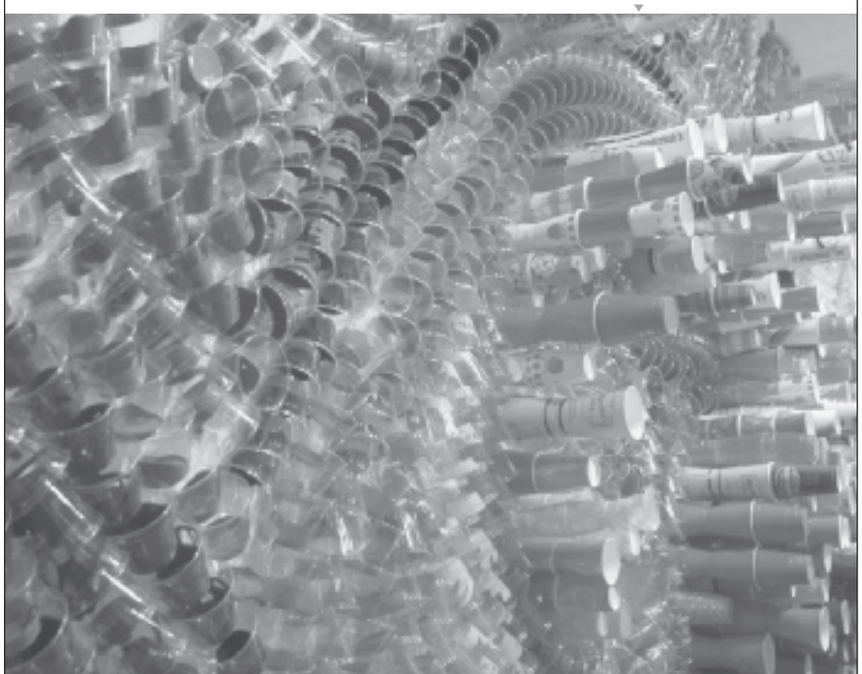
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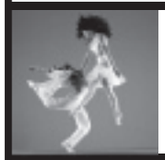
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'RED CANS': There's no place like the hamper

"Try to zip up your head."
"Make sure you feel the cage against you."
"Look out for the wall!"

Shouts Josh Meyer at a rehearsal for *Red Cans*, opening this week at the Off Center. Josh must shout such things because his actors are encased in red plastic and have limited access to sound, sight, and limbs. They motor around the stage using only their arms, only their rear ends, or, at times, nothing at all, resorting instead to good old-fashioned rolling. The 12 actors are miraculously stuffed into tiny laundry hampers – the show's "red cans" – a sight that is both remarkable and bizarre. Meyer and co-director Matt Hislope felt lucky to find claustrophobia-free actors who were willing and able. The first auditionee to try to get into a can immediately began crying, and they wondered if they would ever get this show off the ground. Or to be more exact, on the ground.

Fortunately, they did find actors – 10 women and two men, including Hislope. Flexible performers in mind and body, willing to crawl into a new idea and suffer for it. Talking with the actors who work inside the cans, you hear phrases such as "this lump on my ankle," "a huge bruise," "scrapes from the metal wires," "hard to breathe." Asked if they can see, they chorus a resounding "No!" Asked if the work is difficult, they say, "Frustration is the hardest part." Asked how on Earth they manage their blocking, they offer, "If your toes are pointing the right way, you'll probably go the right way."

Together Meyer and Hislope, the masterminds behind this zany breed of creativity, are Rubber Repertory, one of Austin's most intriguing young theatre companies. Last November they began talking with the Rude Mechs (co-producers of *Red Cans*) about the idea for the show. Meyer "looked at [the hamper] one day and decided to get in it. … It was funny-looking and a little sweet somehow." He figured, "If one or two is engaging, we ought to try it out with *lots* more." *Lots* more has become 33 cans and counting. When creating original theatre, Rubber Repertory likes to explode one source – force-feeding or home videos or laundry hampers. Meyer notes, "We start with something as simple as possible with the understanding that things almost always end up complicating themselves."

Heroic. That's what artists are. They go to insane lengths – mostly undervalued and underpaid lengths – in the pursuit of new, imaginative terrain. The effort here is no exception. *Red Cans* requires determination and humility. It is almost impossible to discern who is who from can to can. The actors are rarely seen. They are encased and working their fingers to the bone – or at least to a really impressive bruise. But you won't hear complaints. This group appreciates the value of the work they are doing. "This is the most challenging acting I have ever done. … After spending a few hours in one of the cans, you really feel you've accomplished something. … It becomes home." – *Hannah Kenah*

Red Cans *runs Aug. 3-19, Thursday-Saturday, 8pm, at the Off Center, 2211 Hidalgo. For more information, call 476-7833, or visit* **www.rubberrep.org**.

'PSYCHO BEACH PARTY': Dueling Chicklets

If Charles Ludlam is American theatre's king of camp and kitsch, then Charles Busch is its queen. From the Sixties through the Eighties, most famously with his play *The Mystery of Irma Vep*, Ludlam popularized the theatrical form that drew on old movies, pop culture, cross-dressing, and the kinky thrill inherent in the practice of (gasp!) forbidden homosexuality. Busch came along in 1984, mining the same vein with his *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom*, which became one of the longest-running plays in off-Broadway history, and the similarly popular *Psycho Beach Party*, a pastiche of beach movies, psychological thrillers, cross-dressing, and (gasp!) forbidden homosexuality. Coming soon to theatres near you will be two productions of the latter show – yes, *two*, but despite having the same title, they'll be surprisingly different.

The first, opening this week, comes from a new company, Prairie Oyster Productions. "It's been a dream all my life to have a production company, and it's been my dad's dream to direct *Psycho Beach Party*," says Emily Fagan, POP's artistic director, who grew up on community theatre in Victoria, Texas, and has made Austin her home since 2004. "He saw a production in a little theatre in Las Vegas and fell in love with it. Then he saw it again a couple of times in Corpus Christi, and he kept thinking, 'I've got to do this show.' For two years he's been collecting everything possible from 1962, from costumes to props to set-pieces. He's been kind of addicted to it, and I thought I had to go ahead and get this going, for me and for him. So we did, and that was kind of my Father's Day gift to him this year." They're going for a real beach feel by staging it outside at the Vortex, with sand, grilled hot dogs, beer, and a live band opening night. For seating, you're advised to BYOBeach towel.

Established company Naughty Austin will throw quite a different *Party* in September. Around the turn of the millennium, Busch was asked to transform the play into a film. In the original stage production, he had starred as Chicklet, the Gidget-like lead character, but feeling he'd grown too old to pass as a teenage girl on film, Busch morphed the psychological thriller plot into a slasher horror story and wrote himself a new role: LAPD Detective Monica Stark. He also played up the (gasp!) forbidden homosexual themes by including a tremendous amount of surfing, an oil-wrestling match, and a lot of naked male ass. He later turned the screenplay back into a play, and that's the version Naughty Austin will mount. "It's so totally not what we do," says artistic director Blake Yelavich. "Drag queens, naked porn-star boys, and people running around in their underwear."

Two versions of a camp classic. One outdoors, one indoors. One with a thriller plot, one with a slasher plot. One heavy on the nostalgia, one heavy on the beefcake. Try one; try both. Go psycho. – *Barry Pineo*

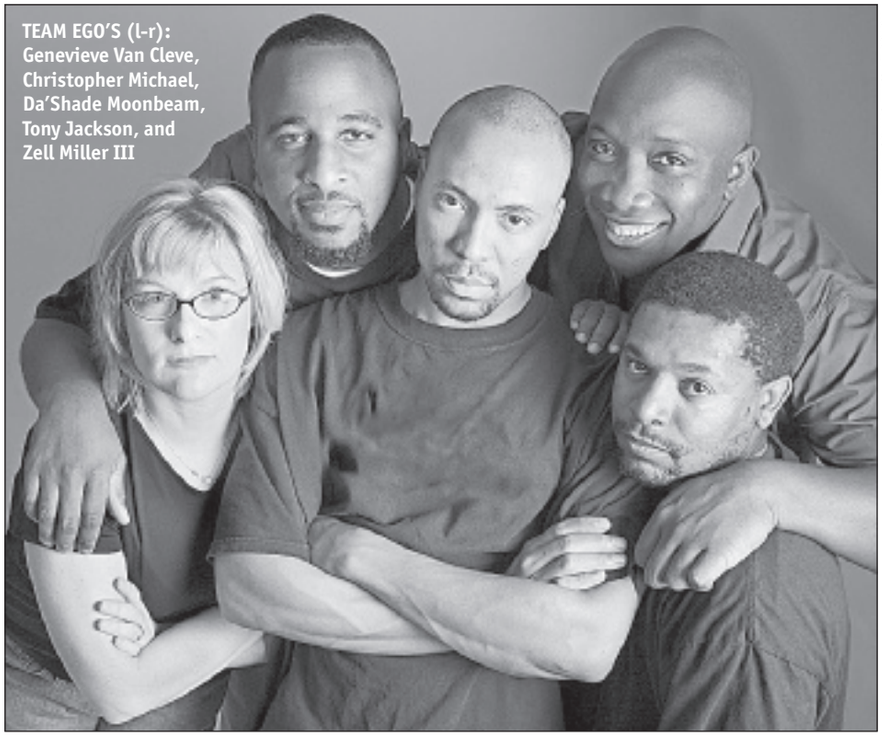
PSYCHO BEACH PARTY CONSUMER GUIDE

	Prairie Oyster Productions	Naughty Austin
COMPANY		
VENUE	The Yard at the Vortex, 2307 Manor	Arts on Real, 2826 Real
DATES	Aug. 4-13, Thursday-Sunday, dusk	Sept. 21-Oct. 29, Thursday-Saturday, 8pm
IN/OUT	Outdoors	Indoors
SCRIPT VERSION	Original 1987 stage play	Revised, post-film version
BONUS ATTRACTIONS	Sand, beach shack, lifeguard stand, grilled hot dogs, cold beer, and on opening night, the band 3 Balls of Fire will play before the show and during intermission	Surfing, oil-wrestling match, and a lot of naked male ass
INFORMATION	478-LAVA or **www.vortexrep.org**	472-ARTS or **www.artsonreal.com**

PUERTO RICAN FOLKLORIC DANCE & CULTURAL CENTER: Housewarming!

Getting a place of one's own is always cause for celebration, which is why the Puerto Rican Folkloric Dance & Cultural Center is throwing a big shindig this Sunday afternoon. The company has secured what it considers its first permanent location in its nine-year history: a 2,100-square-foot facility that's part of the Bread Factory, the former bakery at 701 Tillery that's become a popular home for cultural organizations and individual artists since its renovation four years ago. For most of its existence, Puerto Rican Folkloric Dance has been operating out of the same space as Tapestry Dance Company, between Fifth and Sixth streets, west of Lamar, so this is a major step for the organization. But with that property scheduled for a major makeover, neither company really had a choice. So, PRFD&CC has packed up and headed east, to join ALLGO, Austin Circle of Theaters, DeCola & Eusebi Studio/Gallery, Austin Area Interreligious Ministries, IDEA Art Gallery, and Artillery Gallery at one of the most culturally savvy addresses in Austin. The new venue's grand opening takes place Sunday, Aug. 6, 2-5pm, with games, refreshments, and, of course, dance – most notably a *bombazo* (Bomba dance), a Puerto Rican tradition in which the community is invited to join the dancers before the drum. You're part of the community, so consider yourself invited. Pack up a lawn chair and some dominoes, head on over to the Bread Factory, see the new dance studios with hardwood maple floors, and help PRFD&CC celebrate. For information, call 251-8122, or visit **www.prfdance.org**.

– *Robert Faires*



TEAM EGO'S (l-r): Genevieve Van Cleve, Christopher Michael, Da'Shade Moonbeam, Tony Jackson, and Zell Miller III

PHOTOS BY WILL VAN OVERBEEK



TEAM SOUTH FLAVAS (l-r): Michelle Desiree, Trey Stepter, coach Mike Whalen, Joe Brundidge, Brian Francis, and Kim Taylor

Slam as It Ever Was

The nationals come to town amid the polarizing medium's 20th anniversary

BY SHAWN BADGLEY

It's nearing 2am on a Thursday morning, and I'm in an argument with two dudes at a South Austin dive bar. Don't worry: They're poets, semiretired. One – Penn Jillette in timber and ponytail, a little red in the face, broader than he used to be but by no means heavy – refuses to sit down, looming over me with more mischief than menace. Also, he won't shut up.

The other is measured and pensive, but by the look in his eyes behind the black-rimmed glasses, it's clear that he'll engage in the intellectual equivalent of holding my arms behind my back should his friend and colleague, a member of his wedding party way back when, give him the sign and start swinging.

The bartender wipes the counter. The jukebox plays songs, or it doesn't. Women gather. One is the big guy's wife; one or two or three – I don't remember who or how many – is a friend or a relative or a groupie, bringing him the occasional beer; and one is Genevieve Van Cleve, a poet who isn't semiretired or, for that matter, close to it. Which is why I was here at Ego's earlier, on Wednesday night, when 75 people gathered to watch her and a dozen others – including notables Big Poppa E, Andy Buck, and Christopher Lee – read, recite, perform, preach, sing, athleticize, rap, stand up, and deliver poetry ... or something.

"I don't know why you have to keep referring to it as a 'form,'" Van Cleve says, squinting at me. "What's with that? A 'form'?"

"People are not up to date with what slam is now," says Austin slam master Mike Henry, the guy with the glasses, who is about to become less measured and pensive. I've made the mistake of claiming that poet Mark Strand is better and has a larger, more-informed audience than *Def Poetry Jam*. "You would say that, because you don't really know what you're talking about."

"Some people don't like three-chord rock songs," says ponytail, aka Wammo, and to discern it in his stream of words is like grabbing a fish bare-handed. "Some people don't like slasher films. I mean, who cares? It's ridiculous. Somebody could go up onstage and take a big shit, and the notion of it being poetry *might* be in question."

If this isn't a sore subject for slam poets, it's certainly one they're sick of hearing about.

For the past 20 years (as Poetry Slam Inc. celebrates it), since Marc Kelly Smith founded the competitive art of performance poetry at the Green Mill Tavern in Chicago, they have endured the alternately valid and oblivious attacks of academics, of aesthetes and social critics, of various members of the vanguard and various members of the avant-garde and various members of the human race who might be aware of their existence; they have resisted bending to the whims of the acculturated hipster-leanings of the day, be they understated or over-the-top, ironic or earnest, cheap or expensive; and they have withstood the scrutiny of the tastemaking media, which loved them for almost 15 minutes in the mid-Nineties and is now much more concerned with, God, I don't know, graffiti. The cool-hunters have left them for dead.

So, why the hate, y'all? Why the ambivalence? Why the distaste? Surely, as a maturing but sustained way to make art, and one that rapidly made its presence felt in pop culture and entertainment, slam poetry is, on some level, burdened by potential. Skeptics have been able to track it since its birth, after all, to register its generational impact in real time. There is literary jealousy at its relative success, but also outright literary disappointment. Even for the appreciative, it's difficult to reconcile slam's "sport" with its "spoken word." And when past National Poetry Slam trophies have included a sword plunging through a stack of books – as if to say, "We want to kill you, books!" – a form has a little explaining to do.

□

But to wonder about its reputation and future, to ask around for some explanations, is to realize that slam poetry isn't really sweating it. Enough people continue showing up every week in enough big cities in this country and others. Not enough poets are making a living off of touring or publishing, say the poets, but enough good ones are earning a few extra bucks off of enough people paying covers. Enough of them are repeat customers. They're aging blue-collar bohemians still seeking everyday truths, pretty kids still looking for something to do after their retail shifts are up, family and friends. Actual random people attend, which must madden real poets. These random people make for ideal judges, in fact, who score the three-minute performances on a scale of one to 10 in a transparent process subject to the collective – and loud – oversight of people boozing and caffeinating. Or just having fun however they can.

They're still diverse, these audiences, in race and creed and orientation if not ideology. Some are into drugs, and some aren't. The scenes themselves remain loosely insular – there are wannabes, mascots, icons, lurkers, in-jokes, traditions, and feuds; there is politicking, incestuousness, and as much coupling as sexual tension – but accessible. They root for but are honest with, and often tough on, each other. There's an unmistakable sense of populism but also an unmistakable sense of code: both formal, as according to the rules of the game and of the venue, and unwritten, as with one's standing in the eyes of the regulars and elders. Observe, and you're a part of the community; stray, and you could be set adrift.

THE NATIONAL POETRY SLAM

Aug. 9–12 in Austin

This city last hosted the National Poetry Slam in 1998, to great acclaim. Since then, the sport of spoken word has grown, and so has its big dance. The 2006 version will include 73 teams and 350 artists from the United States and Europe. On **Wednesday**, **Aug. 9**, and **Thursday**, **Aug. 10**, the five-team preliminary bouts (see p.40) will decide the 25 teams that earn berths for **Friday's semifinals** – taking place at Antone's, Ruta Maya, 501 Studios, the Hideout, and Ego's – as well as the 10 **individual finalists**, who will compete at the Paramount Theatre later that evening. And for the first time in NPS history, five teams will advance to the championship bout: **Saturday night** will find them at the Palmer Auditorium.

Throughout the NPS, its Web site will be updated with matchups and more at **www.austinslam.com/nps06**. There, you'll also find daytime and late-night programming information. Especially ecommended are the Legends Showcase, the Nerd Slam, the Group Piece Open Mic, and the Hip Hop Headquarters. For more in this issue, see Arts Listings, p.75.

To be set adrift is to, in effect, be showing up on a regular basis for a glorified open mic. This might be fulfilling for the complacent or self-absorbed, but it is not for those hoping to resonate, subvert, and inspire. For a triumphant performance, connection with the audience is by definition necessary, and connection is more likely with the backing of the community. In other words, good slam poetry often bears the stamp of a scene, the nod of a select few; bad slam poetry finds its ancestry in the open-mic model. On any given night, what results is uneven at best, and the talent pool is diluted with work lacking subtext, overflowing with forced cadence, relying too heavily on identity, and straining with emotions that embarrass or manipulate.

The question then isn't whether that work is poetry or theatre or whatever – I mean, who does care? – but whether it's worth your time. Enough have decided that it's not.

"It does drive me crazy when poets are up there just pushing buttons and if they're just plying the audience for points," Henry says. "If they have forgotten about the writing. Or if they suck. But, if you don't like the show, wait three minutes. The good ones keep you going."

"The reason I still do this is because this is one of the only places in the United States of America that *anyone*, whether they're pedigreed or not, can sign up on a piece of paper and have three minutes to speak their peace," Van Cleve says. "Now, there's an artful way to do that, and there are weird rules, but I think slam poets are truth tellers. We find mendacity so incredibly distasteful that we are willing to endure the parlor game that is the slam."

"It's a really good medium for young writers and performers," Wammo says. "Who in the world would have a problem with that?"

It's a good point. Anyway, when you're standing at a bar going back and forth about this stuff with Henry, Van Cleve, and Wammo – three of the four cornerstones of the Austin slam scene; three of the four members of its inaugural national team in 1995 – and the National Poetry Slam is coming to town in two weeks, all you're really doing is wasting time. These people have things to do: Henry is the event's artistic director; Van Cleve will join the great Zell Miller III, the intense Da'Shade Moonbeam, the empathetic Tony Jackson, and the risk-taking Christopher Michael (whose wife left for a yearlong deployment in Iraq on Aug. 5) on a home team laden with talent and experience; and Wammo will be Wammo, busy playing with his band, the Asylum Street Spankers, maintaining his legacy as a "media smash," and holding forth at the "meeting place of bullshit and alcohol."

□

Speaking of which, Phil West is that fourth cornerstone and member, a former contributor to this publication, and a husband and father living in far South Austin. He's compact, multidegreed, recently quit smoking, wants to "get back into soccer," and is enthusiastic about the National Poetry Slam – not just because his company is doing the PR work for Austin's hosting of it. It's common for someone in my position to dread dealing with PR people, but dealing with West means hearing good stories about classic slam confrontations, like the one Austin lost to rival Dallas at the late Electric Lounge in 1998, the last time the NPS was here, and about legendary competitors like, well, himself.

"I almost feel like a geek discussing these 'battles,'" West says on a drive to San Antonio to scout the city's team (which includes father and daughter Anthony and Amanda Flores, as well as the formidable Rialistic) and check in on the weekly slam he used to host at Sam's Burger Joint. "But they were pretty spectacular. We were pretty spectacular."

West and Henry share an office in 501 Studios that doubled as a production head-

continued on p.40

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"We're not what we look like. We can't be pegged. That can only make us stronger. We don't do 'black poetry,' or at least what people might think of as black poetry. We can beat you in more than one way."

– Kim Taylor, Team South Flavas

quarters for the documentary *Slam Planet* (see p.84) after the Guadalupe Arts Center burned in a 2005 fire. On the floor is giant papier-mâché likeness of Wammo's head. The duo is leading the effort to coordinate the 73 teams and 350 artists who will compete across eight venues starting Aug. 9.

West and Henry's notes on attending teams – Kalamazoo is surprisingly strong, the NYC Nuyoricans always have a different team but always have a chance, and watch out for Rachel McKibbens or Anis Mojgani, etc. – carry with them a certain removal for me that goes beyond geography: There's a reasonable expectation about the shape that performances and the tournament itself will take – as there is on, say, selection Sunday of the NCAAs – but the possibilities, variations, and scenarios are many. It won't shock you to see what power words have, what a human body can do onstage, how a human voice can shake a room, but the effect hinges on the experience; as much depends on that stage and on that room as on those words. A lot depends on the host who randomly – but, as West admits, demographically – selects that bout's judges. Visitors will have to combat the home-field advantage, but all teams will have to cope with the moods, expectations, and preferences of the people. Not even the savviest and most charismatic artists are impervious.

Still, I can't imagine anyone not responding to a team that Henry introduces me to at Antonio's Tex-Mex on the I-35 access road near 183, a pleasant enough if a bit well-lit restaurant surrounded by off-ramp motels. When I watch them practice the next night, I find it hard to believe that anyone will beat them.

□

The Austin Neo Soul Lounge is a slam founded by Herman Mason of South Flavas Entertainment and Ron Horne of the Texas Youth Word Collective. It's in its fourth year and venue. It takes place every Wednesday night, overlapping and cross-pollinating with south-side stalwart Ego's, which, since the Electric Lounge shuttered, sponsors what has historically been the city's only team.

2006 will be the first time that the simultaneously explosive and laid-back Neo Soul will have a representative team at the NPS, although members Kim Taylor and Trey Stepter have nationals experience. Taylor is a force, hypertalented and focused, while Stepter is nicknamed "Quincy" for his ear. In his debut slam at Ego's last month, he finished third. The team – rounded out by Michelle Desiree, Joe Brundidge, and Brian Francis – has won two of its six regional scrimmages. After 33 practices in the past two months, they are peaking at the right time.

"The sense of competitiveness hasn't eaten us yet," Taylor says. "But some of us are competitive. We don't have buckles yet, nothing to signify what we've done at nationals, but now comes the fun part. I think that we are probably the most prepared team going in. We've repeated only one piece in all of the scrimmages that we've gone to. We've managed to earn a lot of respect in not a lot of time."

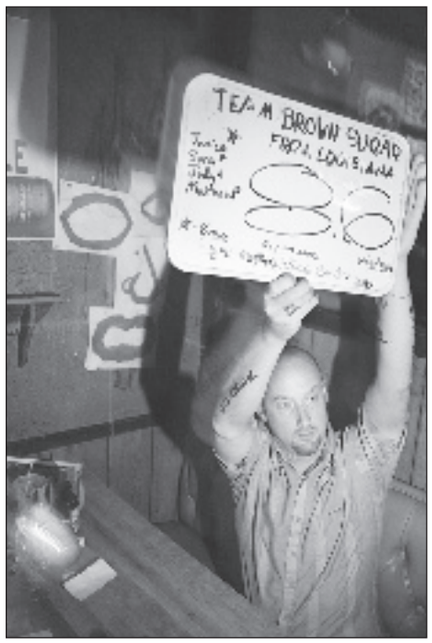
"It's a competition, clearly," Brundidge says. "But we don't want to overstrategize or play too much to the judges. As cliché as it might be, we just have to do our best and believe in what we're bringing."

"We're hoping that your article won't keep us from sneaking up on people," Francis laughs. "Regardless, we'll be in the mix."



PHOTOS BY WILL VAN OVERBEEK

Kim Taylor at Antonio's Tex-Mex



Matthew John Conley judges at Ego's

The portion of practice No. 34 that I watch at Francis' two-story home in Wells Branch centers on a group effort called "The Box." It's dynamic, involving all five members, and features the silver-tongued Desiree delivering a relentless and vibrant lyric over layers of beat-boxing and a cappella bass and melody. It is as smooth and precise as a good watch; as they perfect it, coming closer and closer to what they – and their adored but demanding coach, Mike Whalen – are after, it invariably comes in at two mintues and 44 seconds. Though built on timing, it is somehow unpredictable.

"Sometimes it works, and sometimes it doesn't," Stepter says. "You have to deliver a piece to the point where you know you are actually making an impact on somebody."

"We're not what we look like," Taylor says. "We can't be pegged. That can only make us stronger. We don't do 'black poetry,' or at least what people might think of as black poetry. We're not selling out, but we're much more abstract, and we each bring different things. We complement each other. What we want to do is try and appeal to everybody. We can beat you in more than one way."

Later, as the rehearsal winds down with Desiree and Taylor struggling through a problematic piece, there is laughter and a sense of eagerness rather than anxiety. Whalen stands, his punctuated body language offering advice on accent and pace, while Brundidge and Stepter study something on a laptop screen. Pizza plates, Fanta bottles, and wine glasses must be picked up. Francis leads me upstairs to the "Wall," which is in a lofted area decorated with framed black-and-white photos. His teammates are up there. Members of the Ego's team are up there. Everybody on the Austin slam scene, it seems, is up there. It's an archive and a tribute, but it's also proof that they're all part of something.

No one in the pictures appears to be overly concerned about how people who want nothing to do with that something – whatever it is – will look at them. ■

AUGUST MADNESS: OPENING BOUTS

Free and open to the public; for more information, see **www.austinslam.com/nps06**.

WEDNESDAY	RUTA MAYA	OPAL DIVINE'S	EGO'S	HIDEOUT	PROGRESS	ANTONE'S	501 STUDIOS	VOLITANT
7pm	*BOUT #1*	*BOUT #2*	*BOUT #3*	*BOUT #4*	*BOUT #5*	*BOUT #6*	*BOUT #7*	*BOUT #8*
	Atlanta-AA	Knoxville	Minneapolis	Austin-SF	Montevallo	Milwaukee	Newark, NJ	Ft Worth
	Detroit	Columbus-BP	Houston	Oakland	Charlotte	Columbus-WB	Dallas-CC	Palo Alto
	Mesa	Modesto	Dayton	Richmond	Flagstaff	Lincroft	Columbia	Baton Rouge
	Corpus Christi	Worcester	Brooklyn	Winter Park	Vancouver	Winston-Salem	Boise	Bowling Green
	Austin-Ego's	Omaha	Ventura	Atlanta-KM		Hollywood	Palatine	Las Vegas
9pm	*BOUT #9*	*BOUT #10*	*BOUT #11*	*BOUT #12*	*BOUT #13*	*BOUT #14*	*BOUT #15*	
	Berkeley	San Antonio	Boston-LL	Ithaca	San Jose	Albuquerque	Denver	
	Delray Beach	Salt Lake City	NYC-Nuyorican	Orlando	Buffalo	Newark, DE	NYC-Urbana	
	St. Louis	Madison	Paris, France	Dallas-Pugsley	Miami	Chicago	Cincinnati	
	Providence	Oneonta	Boston-Cantab	NYC-Louder ARTS	Sacramento	Colorado Springs	Ann Arbor	
	Seattle	Hawaii	Kalamazoo	DC-Baltimore	Farmington	Los Angeles		

THURSDAY	RUTA MAYA	OPAL DIVINE'S	EGO'S	HIDEOUT	PROGRESS	ANTONE'S	501 STUDIOS	VOLITANT
7pm	*BOUT #16*	*BOUT #17*	*BOUT #18*	*BOUT #19*	*BOUT #20*	*BOUT #21*	*BOUT #22*	
	Madison	Kalamazoo	Orlando	Sacramento	Albuquerque	Cincinnati	Berkeley	
	Paris, France	D.C.-Baltimore	Buffalo	Colorado Springs	Denver	Providence	San Antonio	
	Dallas Pugsley	Farmington	Newark, DE	Seattle	Delray Beach	Oneonta	Boston-LL	
	Miami	Los Angeles	NYC-Urbana	Hawaii	Salt Lake City	Boston Cantab	Ithaca	
	Chicago	Ann Arbor	St. Louis		NYC-Nuyorican	NYC Louder ARTS	San Jose	
9pm	*BOUT #23*	*BOUT #24*	*BOUT #25*	*BOUT #26*	*BOUT #27*	*BOUT #28*	*BOUT #29*	*BOUT #30*
	Atlanta-JM	Lincroft	Milwaukee	Boise	Palo Alto	Atlanta-AA	Worcester	Houston
	Vancouver	Columbia	Newark, NJ	Bowling Green	Mesa	Knoxville	Brooklyn	Oakland
	Hollywood	Baton Rouge	Ft. Worth	Austin-Ego's	Modesto	Minneapolis	Winter Park	Charlotte
	Palatine	Corpus Christi	Detroit	Omaha	Dayton	Austin-SF	Flagstaff	Columbus-WB
	Las Vegas		Columbus-BP	Ventura	Richmond	Montevallo	Winston Salem	Dallas-CC

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AFTER A FASHION

BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

FASHION FEAR FACTOR Attending local fashion shows can be like going on ***Fear Factor*** – but instead of having to eat sheep entrails while thousands of giant Madagascar hissing cockroaches crawl all over us while we are suspended in a locked Plexiglas case over a pit of burning feces, in **Fashion Fear Factor**, we are subjected to ghastly creations that are passed off as fashion. The clothes are usually poorly designed and constructed by amateurs who insist they are "designers," and the presentations are dreadful displays of bad taste, often involving the "model" showing much more than clothing. The "models" are often *real* people, i.e., friends and neighbors of the "designer" – which is why you hear some of the most *unlikely* people say, "Oh, yes, I'm a model, too." My friend and personal fashion icon **Gail Chovan** and I know a couple of designers who went into business together, and we howled when we looked on the Web site and it said that they had met while "modeling" in New York. Ever since, Gail and I tell people that *we* met while modeling in New York, too. Having walked through a crowd of people in a beer-soaked nightclub wearing ridiculous clothes does *not* make one a model anymore than decorating a T-shirt makes one a *designer*. Of course, not every local show is abysmal; every now and then there is magic on the runway, but those instances are few and far between, and those shows are either not open to the public or they come with a very stiff ticket price. But since *anybody* can be a "model" and "designer," then, naturally, *anyone* can produce a "fashion" show … right? Personally, I'd *rather* eat sheep entrails and cockroaches than see another show like those, even though certain individuals who fancy themselves as part of the "fashion" community crucify me for refusing to accept *their* definition of fashion. But as the old proverb says, "The dogs bark, the caravan passes."

ELECTIONEERING So, serial divorcée **Carole Keeton McClellan Rylander Strayhorn** _____ (to be filled in upon her next marriage) has dropped her bid to be called **Grandma** on the election ballot. Or more correctly, her second attempt to be listed as such was once again firmly rejected. No wonder she wants to be called "Grandma" – her name changes as often as her political affiliation. She is a prime example of why women should continue to use their maiden name professionally. But her claim that "I am 'Grandma' to 23 million Texans" holds no water whatsoever, and no one I've ever heard of, except possibly her six granddaughters, really calls her "Grandma." The only thing I like about her is the way she attacks **Gov. Rick Perry**, the hateful homophobe who appears to spend more time on his hair than he does on the budget. Then there's Democratic candidate **Chris Bell**, who seems affable enough and has a good platform, but no one has ever heard of him. Though in his campaign commercials he appears as a towering giant, the ugly reality is that he will be the **Ralph Nader** of this election, splitting the vote from those who might win but not winning himself. One poll says that the homophobe is at 35%, Kinky is at 21%, the giant is at 20%, and Madame _____ is at 19%. But Kinky is virtually in the same place Jesse Ventura was at this point in *his* race … and look what happened to him! Go **Kinky**!



TODD V. WOLFSON

Former Austin singer and model, the beauteous Chrysta Bell, now resides in San Diego and maintains a strong Austin connection. In September she will be attending the Venice Film Festival with director David Lynch for the premiere of his latest film, *Inland Empire*, featuring a song she has co-written with him.

RETRACTION I was incorrect in last week's column by saying that **Mix 94.7** was producing a segment called **Fashion Fridays** in conjunction with ***Tribeza*** magazine. The segment is being produced in conjuction with a former employee of *Tribeza* and has nothing to do with the magazine.

AGENDA On First Thursday, Aug. 3, 7-9pm, at the always-stylish **Pink Salon, Boutique and Gallery** (1204 S. Congress), **Summer Lawson** of **SubKult Klothing Kouture** and **Tracy Robertson** of **Azrael's Accomplice Designs** will be having a trunk show. Meet the designers and be the first to see wicked and wonderful new designs, including many one-of-a-kind pieces… Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 19-20 at **Carlos'n Charlie's** on Lake Travis, the ever-fabulous **Lou Ann Barton**, along with a slew of guests including **Carolyn Wonderland**, **Kenny Wayne Shepherd & Double Trouble**, **Soul Asylum**, and many more will be performing at the **Austin Rockin' Blues Festival** to benefit the **Palmer Drug Abuse Program**. More info, including tickets and volunteer opportunities, can be found at **www.austinrockinbluesfestival.com**.

Write to our Style Avatar with your related events, news, and hautey bits: **style@austinchronicle.com** *or PO Box 49066, Austin, 78765 or 458-6910 (fax).*







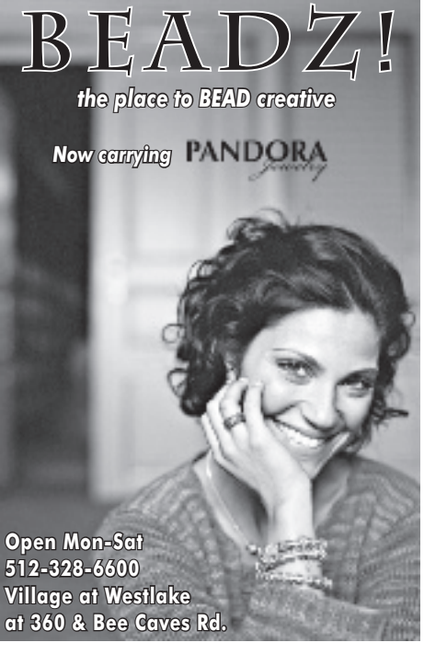




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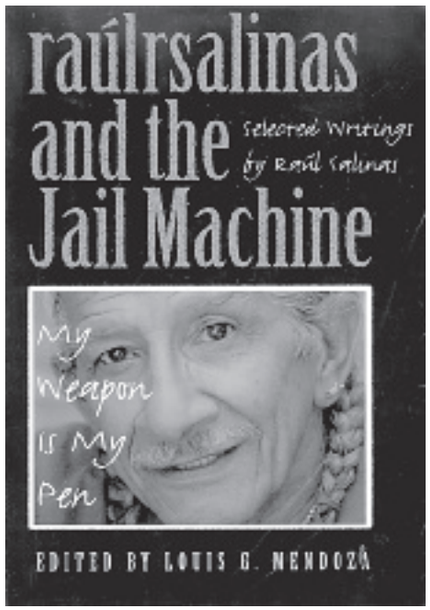
RAÚLRSALINAS AND THE JAIL MACHINE: MY WEAPON IS MY PEN

by Raúl Salinas, edited by Louis G. Mendoza
University of Texas Press, 344 pp., $22.95 (paper)

It ain't fair, John Sinclair
In the stir for breathing air ...
If he'd been a soldier man
Shooting gooks in Vietnam
If he was the CIA
Selling dope and making hay
He'd be free, they'd let him be
Breathing air, like you and me.
– from "John Sinclair," by John Lennon

1972 was the year John Sinclair was released from prison, with the help of John Lennon's lyrical protest, "John Sinclair," blasting the unreasonable 10-years-for-two-joints jail sentence and forever immortalizing the Detroit poet/blues singer. During that same year, Austin poet/Resistencia bookstore owner Raúl Salinas was released from prison after 12 years in and out of four of the most brutal prisons in the country ... for drug offenses.

However, the subject of *raúlrsalinas and the Jail Machine: My Weapon Is My Pen*, a collection of writings produced by Salinas while in prison and edited by Louis G. Mendoza, is not, as it might be, the injustice of Salinas' situation. Mendoza doesn't tout "it ain't fair, it ain't fair." In fact, little of the work is dedicated to the exact nature of his crimes. Instead, Mendoza directs his focus toward the human element caged behind these bars. As stated



by Mendoza in the introduction to this book, "The most important purpose served by the publication of this collection will be its contribution to an increased understanding of the human potential that lives behind the walls of prisons." But even more poignantly, Mendoza asks, "What does our current political economy of incarceration say about the nature of the freedom of which we would deprive of others?"

The collection is divided into four parts. The first section, "Salinas' Journalism," catalogs a career Salinas began and excelled in during his incarceration. Through Salinas' published works, which include profiles of other talented inmates acquainted with Salinas, Mendoza implores his readers to discover exceptional, artistic humans with much to offer to society, culturally and critically. These men have done wrong, by society's standards, but like Lennon, Mendoza asks his readers to look beyond their convict or ex-convict status and acknowledge their contributions as assets to the common wealth.

The second section, "Flying Kites to the World: Letters, 1968-1974," which dominates the collection in length, includes letters exchanged between Salinas and friends, family, politicians, and activists. These dialogues expose readers to the many moods and faces of Salinas the prisoner, as well as his signature Chicano, bilingual writing style.

The third section, "The Marion Strike: Journals From 'El Pozo,'" documents the history of the Marion Strike, a prisoner-guard conflict and subsequent work-stoppage and strike between prisoners and officials that occurred at Illinois' Marion Federal Penitentiary in 1972. Finally, the fourth section, "Post-Prison Interviews," includes two interviews conducted with Salinas following his release from prison, one in 1974 and the other in 1994.

Though undeniably trite, the latter half of the collection's title, *My Weapon Is My Pen*, is a fitting description of Salinas' experience in jail. With fists curled around whittled-down, poor-quality pencils, Salinas used his words to bring about cultural and political change within the prison system, to give voice to the often-discriminated Chicano people, and to decorate his cell and those of his inmate brethren with the beauty and intellect of his poetry.

The articles, images, interviews, and letters collected in this book document Salinas' metamorphosis in prison, from rebellious *pachuco* to formative journalist and activist for rights of prisoners, Chicanos, and, later, Native Americans. Salinas, however, is most noted for his transformation into a poet. His most acclaimed poem, "Un Trip Through the Mind Jail," which first appeared in the Leavenworth prison newspaper *Aztlán de Leavenworth* in 1970, and is reprinted in its original form in this work, has garnered him recognition all over the nation. Mendoza wisely chose not to sprinkle this collection with Salinas' various personal poems, as that might have taken away from the intention of the book, but he did well to include "Un Trip Through the Mind Jail" and perhaps should have even included an easier-to-read version of the poem.

In *raúlrsalinas and the Jail Machine: My Weapon Is My Pen*, Mendoza has created an intriguing history of one of Austin's longtime political and literary contributors, as well as a valuable case study of the "intellectual prisoner." And in keeping with Salinas' embodiment of the Chicano spirit, the book represents Chicano culture and language, blending English and Spanish throughout the text. Though it's no hit pop song, Mendoza's portrait is a sincere tribute. – *Sofia Resnick*

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– JoAnn Kugle

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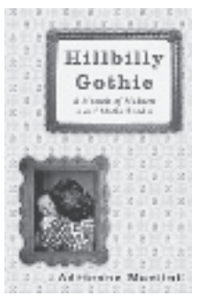
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Events at BookPeople



NINA PLANCK
REAL FOOD: WHAT TO EAT AND WHY
St. Martin's Press
Sunday, August 6 3pm
In a world of increasing obesity rates and quick-fix diet strategies, Nina Planck urges us to eat eggs, full-fat milk, butter (not margarine), and grass-fed beef. *Real Food* argues the health benefits of fresh from the earth eating, versus the manufactured "health" foods of today. With well-researched arguments and anecdotes about her life growing up on a farm, this is an important and fun read. If you appreciated *Omnivore's Dilemma*, this will be right up your alley. Sunday, August 6 at 3pm.

ADRIENNE MARTINI
HILLBILLY GOTHIC:
A MEMOIR OF MADNESS AND MOTHERHOOD
Simon & Schuster
Tuesday, August 8 7pm
An honest and candid account of one family's history with postpartum depression, *Hillbilly Gothic* is a surprisingly witty and funny memoir by Adrienne Martini. Martini tells her story of depression, and with her open and unflinching acknowledgement of her problems, she is sure to inspire and help countless other women suffering as well. Tuesday, August 8 at 7pm.



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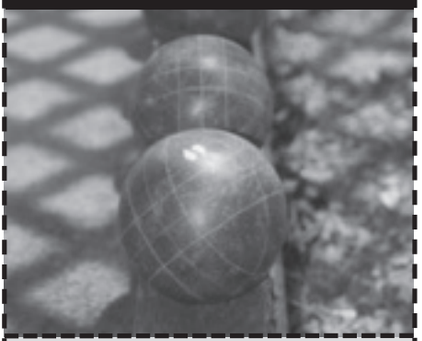
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food

48 MARBLE FALLS ROUNDUP **52** RESTAURANT ROULETTE

WINE TRIPS FROM MARBLE FALLS

There are 17 wineries within an hour's drive of Marble Falls. I've grouped them in parties of four – about as many wineries as you should try to hit in a day – with one left over in a different direction. I haven't grouped the wineries according to quality; trip 4 is just as good as trips 1, 2, and 3. All have good wines to offer, and you'll end up liking some more than others. But the joy of discovery comes when you are surprised, and all of these wineries have individual wines that will surprise you.

– Wes Marshall

TRIP 1

Pillar Bluff Vineyards: 300 Burnet County Rd. 111 outside of Lampasas, 512/556-4078, **www.pillarbluff.com**

Alamosa Wine Cellars: 677 CR 430 in Bend, 325/628-3313, **www.alamosawinecellars.com**

Fall Creek Vineyards: 1820 CR 222 in Tow, 325/379-5361, **www.fcv.com**

Sandstone Cellars Winery: 211 San Antonio St. in Mason (try Santos Taqueria next door), 325/347-9463, **www.sandstonecellarswinery.com**

TRIP 2

Becker Vineyards: 464 Becker Farms Rd. outside of Stonewall, 830/644-2681, **www.beckervineyards.com**

Torre di Pietra: 10915 E. Hwy. 290 outside of Fredericksburg, 830/644-2829, **www.texashillcountrywine.com**

Woodrose Winery: 662 Woodrose Ln. outside of Stonewall, 830/644-2539, **www.woodrosewinery.com**

Grape Creek Vineyard: Highway 290 & Vineyard Lane outside of Stonewall, 830/644-2710, **www.grapecreek.com**

TRIP 3

Texas Hills Vineyard: 1 mile east of Johnson City on RR 2766, 830/868-2321, **www.texashillsvineyard.com**

McReynolds Wines: 706 Shovel Mountain Rd. in Cypress Mill, 830/825-3544, **www.mcreynoldswines.com**

Spicewood Vineyards: 1419 CR 409 outside of Spicewood, 830/693-5328, **www.spicewoodvineyards.com**

Stone House Vineyard: 24350 Haynie Flat Rd. in Spicewood, 512/264-9890, **www.stonehousevineyard.com**

TRIP 4

Fredericksburg Winery: 247 W. Main St. in Fredericksburg, 830/990-8747, **www.fbgwinery.com**

Chisholm Trail Winery: 2367 Usener Rd. outside of Fredericksburg, 830/990-2675, **www.chisholmtrailwinery.com**

Bell Mountain: 463 Bell Mountain Rd. outside of Fredericksburg, 830/685-3297, **www.bellmountainwine.com**

Lost Creek Vineyard: 1129 RR 2233 in Sunrise Beach, 325/388-3753, **www.lostcreekvineyard.com**

The above-listed wineries are north, south, and west of Marble Falls. There is one that is east and worth a visit for its award-winning wines and gorgeous tasting room:

Flat Creek Estate: 24912 E. Singleton Bend #1 outside of Marble Falls, 512/267-6310; **www.flatcreekestate.com**

recently reviewed

BRAZILIAN: **SAMPAIO'S** This inviting and cool modern space with a neighborhood feel is the closest Austin has to authentic Brazilian fare, offering unique and exciting flavors and a very pleasant atmosphere. Try the fabulous tropical drinks on the patio. ***4800 Burnet Rd., 469-9988 $$***

KOREAN: **MISUNG 888** Delicious home-style traditional Korean in a cozy spot that's open late. Big portions of authentic flavors, unique *panchan* items, with some dishes you won't find anywhere else in town. ***911 W. Anderson #114, 302-5433 $$***



COURTNEY CHAVANELL

FOOD-O-FILE

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD



JOHN ANDERSON

Top: The Misung 888 photo we should have published; bottom: the 888 Vietnamese photo we shouldn't have

First up, in the off-with-our-heads department, we need to take responsibility for a photo mix-up with last week's review of **Misung 888** (911 W. Anderson #114, 302-5433). Even though we made the critical distinction between Misung 888 and **888 Vietnamese** (2400 E. Oltorf Ste. 1-A, 448-4722) in the lead of the piece, we unfortunately ran a stock photo that had been taken last year to illustrate **Claudia Alarcón**'s enthusiastic review of 888 Vietnamese (**austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Issue/story?oid=oid%3A303789**). We regret the error and apologize to both restaurants for the confusion. The photo will be corrected on the Web... Chef/owner **Paul Constantine** called with the sad news that he and wife **Joni** closed **Cafe Caprice** (900 W. 10th) on July 30. "We did this with our own money and gave it our best shot for two and a half years, but we were just never able to get the numbers where they needed to be consistently," Constantine told me. Joni Constantine will be teaching with AISD this fall, and Paul is considering job opportunities. Restaurateurs interested in the cozy cottage overlooking Shoal Creek should talk to owner **Marshall Slacter**... Fans of chef **Will Packwood**'s cooking will be pleased to note that he's opening a new restaurant Downtown in the next few weeks. Packwood's new business partner, **Bella Verdi Farms** (**www.bellaverdifarms.com**) owner **Darrell Joseph**, e-mailed the *Chronicle* with the news that he is branching out from his successful hydroponic microgreens business and that the duo is opening an Italian eatery called **Cibo** (918 Congress, 478-3663) in the former **Dariush** location. That same block houses both **Little City** (916 Congress) and hot new restaurant **Jezebel** (914 Congress). "We want to make this block a definite dining destination. We're going to serve coffee and pastries in the morning, lunch, and dinner, and we'll be offering delivery service to the downtown lofts," Joseph told me during a follow-up call. Also eagerly awaited this fall are the **Woodland** (1716 S. Congress), **Lambert's Downtown Barbecue & Chop House** (West Second & Guadalupe), and the **Belmont** (305 W. Sixth)... Owner **Ron Flores** is relieved to finally have his original **Habana** (2728 S. Congress, 443-4252) location open once again, nearly two years after it was damaged by fire. Drop by for one of their great Cuban sandwiches, and have a refreshing mojito on one of the new patios... The folks at **Saba Blue Water Cafe** (208 W. Fourth, 478-7222, **www.sabacafe.com**) have added an Island Brunch to their offerings, Sundays from 11am to 3pm. Look for such items as Chilaquiles and Island Fruit Crepes.

EVENT MENU :: AUG. 5-11

Where wine and food are concerned, the Iberian Peninsula could not be any hotter these days. The folks at **Grape Vine Market** (7838 Great Northern Blvd., 323-5900) will demonstrate why with an in-store tasting and special sale of foods and wines from Spain and Portugal. There will also be live music and dancing; noon-6pm, Saturday, Aug. 5.

The **Red Ribbon Dinner Series** benefiting **AIDS Services of Austin** (**www.asaustin.org**) continues this week with a fabulous five-course meal prepared by chef **Jeff Liu** of **Bistro 88** (2712 Bee Caves Rd., 328-8888). Tickets are $125, $100 of which goes directly to ASA. Make necessary reservations online; 7pm, Monday, Aug. 7.

Ice-cream lovers have a great opportunity to get a cool reward for an important act of community service during the next two weeks. Blue Bell Creameries sponsors the "Pint for Pint" blood drive at the Blood and Tissue Center of Central Texas (**www.bloodandtissue.org**) this month. Participating locations are 4300 N. Lamar in Austin (206-1266) and 2132 N. Mays in Round Rock (512/233-5433), where donating a pint of much-needed blood will get you a free pint of Blue Bell ice cream; Aug. 7-19.

THE HILL COUNTRY FALL FEST & WINE AUCTION: SEPT. 15-17

The swanky, new Horseshoe Bay Marriott Resort near Marble Falls is collaborating with area restaurants and wineries to host this second annual harvest celebration. Events are scheduled during three days in a variety of inviting locations. It's possible to book events separately by calling the Marble Falls Chamber of Commerce at 830/693-2815, and the Marriott Resort is offering a special package deal that includes a one-night stay, breakfast, and tickets to the Friday- and Saturday-night events. Be sure to mention the Harvest Fest when calling for reservations at the hotel, 800/452-5330.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 15

6:30-9pm: Take a sunset stroll on the Horseshoe Bay Marriott Pavilion and sample signature appetizers from Hill Country chefs complemented by wines from Texas vintners. Local legend John Arthur Martinez will provide the entertainment; $50 per person.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 16

10:30am-12:30pm: Be at Fall Creek Vineyards (**www.fcv.com**) when Pastry Queen Rebecca Rather of Fredericksburg "Cooks up a Storm," demonstrating the preparation of some Hill Country favorites that will be served with Texas wines. She will also sign copies of her cookbook, *The Pastry Queen: Royally Good Recipes From the Texas Hill Country's Rather Sweet Bakery & Cafe*; $40 per person, reservations required; 325/379-5361.

Noon-5pm: Visit wineries on the Hill Country Wine Trail

6pm: Attend the four-course dinner and Toast of Texas Wine Auction Gala at the Marriott Resort prepared by Marriott Executive Chef Robin Murphy and guest chef Rebecca Rather; $90 per person, reservations required.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 17

11am-1pm: Finish off the weekend with the Rosé Brunch at Cafe 909 in Marble Falls prepared by chefs Mark Schmidt, Patton Robertson, and Rebecca Rather; $40 per person, reservations required.

Boomtown Dining

Eleven more reasons to make a trip to Marble Falls

Ever since the days when Marble Falls was a tiny quarry settlement on the Colorado River, people have been drawn here by the attractive natural assets. First, it was the beauty of the Colorado River tumbling over granite boulders, and next it was the distinctive pink granite quarried nearby – residents wisely bartered the highly prized stone with the builders of Austin's new Capitol building for a rail line connecting them to the city. Later, when the river was dammed to create the Highland Lakes and the falls were obscured, recreation became the area's stock in trade. The exclusive Horseshoe Bay Resort came along in 1971, attracting folks to the beautiful lake and the championship golf courses. Up until a few years ago, Marble Falls remained a quiet resort town, busy with part-time residents in the summer and on weekends – a favorite destination for retirees and folks with enough disposable income to afford second homes. Now, the impact of Austin's booming growth is obvious in Marble Falls. As housing developments sprout up along highways 71 West and 281 North, many new folks are commuting to Austin for work but calling Marble Falls home, treasuring the natural beauty and recreational amenities offered here. One positive aspect of all the growth is an increase in dining opportunities. Sure, the population growth has brought some regional chains, but good local, independent restaurants flourish. From longtime locals' favorite breakfast spot, Atwood's, to the legendary Blue Bonnet Cafe to the much newer fine-dining mecca, Cafe 909, Marble Falls is a serious dining destination. *– Virginia B. Wood*

RUSSO'S TEXITALLY CAFE (1)

602 Steve Hawkins Pkwy., 830/693-7091
Tuesday-Saturday, 10am-10pm
www.texitally.com

Russo's Texitally Cafe deserves recognition for being among the first restaurants in Marble Falls to believe the local populace would support a high-end restaurant. Your first attraction will be the sprawling picture windows offering one of the prettiest views in Central Texas as you gaze over Lake Marble Falls from atop the highest hill in town. Longevity counts in small towns, and Russo's has made its place by keeping the customers satisfied with Texas ingredients and Italian cooking methods. At lunchtime, pastas and tomato sauce reign, with the Spaghetti and Italian Sausage ($6.95) being one of the best New Jersey-style entrées. For a little more excitement, try the Texalfredo Blue ($7.95), penne pasta in Alfredo sauce with grapes, pecans, jalapeños, and blue cheese. At dinner, meats take over the menu, with certified Angus beef steaks (all market-priced and hand-cut) being the popular draw. Shrimp lovers can try the Seafood Giovanni ($17.95) with shrimp, scallops, and penne pasta, baked with white wine, butter, cheese, mushrooms, bacon, and jalapeños. Russo's also has a full barista operation, using Starbucks coffee, offering espresso and a number of espresso-based drinks. The coffee bar is open from 10am till 10pm. *– Wes Marshall*



PATTON'S ON MAIN (2)

201 Main, 830/693-8664
Tuesday-Saturday: lunch, 10am-3pm; dinner, 5-9:30pm; Sunday: brunch, 10:30am-2pm
www.pattonsonmain.com

If Cafe 909 isn't the best restaurant in town, then Patton's on Main is. There are interesting differences between the two. Cafe 909 is intimate and quiet with a backdrop of owner Mark Schmidt's first-rate iPod offerings like Blossom Dearie and Billie Holiday. Patton's place is bustling, multileveled, and features live music that rocks the patio. Cafe 909 is only open for dinner; Patton's is also open for lunch. And, where Cafe 909 has a few seats devoted to drinking fine wine and beers, Patton's offers a fully equipped sports bar.

Where they coincide is with an enormous amount of talent and creativity in the kitchen. Patton Robertson graduated from Marble Falls High School in 1988 and headed off to Ole Miss. He fell in love with cooking and decided to attend Le Cordon Bleu in London, where he earned the institute's highest honor, the Grand Diplôme. Upon graduation, Wolfgang Puck hired him to work at Spago in Las Vegas. He stayed for seven years, then was recruited to be the executive chef of Cili restaurant, where he was named one of the Star Chefs of Las Vegas.

Married and with a couple of children to raise, it seemed like a good time to go home to Marble Falls. Robertson rescued an old building on the town square and set about creating a challenger to Cafe 909.


JOHN ANDERSON
Patton's on Main

His dishes have a sense of place. Classic Texas dishes like grits get dressed up to be Shrimp and Grits ($13 at lunch, $23 at dinner), a marvelous concoction of spicy, cheesy grits with smoked bacon, scallions, and mushrooms topped off with sautéed shrimp. Chicken-fried steak becomes Chicken-Fried Pork Loin ($21 at dinner), served with chipotle mashed potatoes and rich creamed spinach. The restaurant exudes Texas class without ever being formal.

The Patton's wine list is short but nicely chosen. On the red side, jump at the chance for a bottle of MacMurray Ranch Pinot Noir ($8.95/glass, $32/bottle). Another great food wine, and nice to see at a Hill Country restaurant, is Fall Creek's Granite Reserve ($27). On the white side of the menu, the best bet is Frog's Leap Sauvignon Blanc ($11/glass, $44/bottle), a wine that goes with virtually any meal you can imagine, short of a grilled rib eye. *– W.M.*

BLUE BONNET CAFE (3)

211 Hwy. 281, 830/693-2344
Monday-Thursday, 6am-8pm; Friday-Saturday, 6am-9pm; Sunday, 6am-1:45pm
www.bluebonnetcafe.net

RIVER CITY GRILLE (4)

700 First, 830/798-9909
Sunday-Thursday, 11am-10pm; Friday-Saturday, 11am-11pm
www.rivercitygrilletx.com

John Kemper used to eat breakfast every morning at the Blue Bonnet Cafe. He loved the place so much that in 1981, he decided to try to buy it. He's now the owner of the Blue Bonnet Cafe, one of the oldest ongoing restaurants in the Hill Country. At the spry age of 77, the cafe continues to pack in the customers. Even with the 60 seats added a few years back, you can count on standing in line for lunch for at least a while. Most people don't mind the wait; it gives them a chance to enjoy watching the waitresses perform their deft maneuvering as they rush – in a friendly manner – to serve more than 2,000 people per day. The crowds pack the place for the fair prices, good food, and incredibly tasty baked goods. Every day, they bake biscuits, yeast rolls, and an assortment of delicious pies, all from scratch.

A few years later, Kemper met Paul Brady, a veteran executive who had worked at Victoria Station, Chili's, the Olive Garden, and Chuy's. They bought a property right on the water and named it River City Grille. The gorgeous views are the initial draw, but the sports bar offers a great opportunity to sample the cold beer; the 2-inch-thick, double-hand-battered, deep-fried onion rings; and a burger while watching the Longhorns beat up all the other teams in the Big 12. The River City Grille also specializes in prime rib and Black Angus steaks. *– W.M.*



JOHN ANDERSON
Blue Bonnet Cafe

ATWOOD'S (5)

311 Hwy. 281 N., 830/693-2663
Wednesday-Saturday, 6am-2pm

Former Blue Bonnet Cafe owner Louis Atwood opened this little burger joint as a hangout for area high school kids in the late Sixties and sold it to the Sivells family when he retired in 1971. The Sivellses have been cooking for a fiercely loyal clientele ever since. Mom Virginia does most of the baking: She's famous for her biscuits and the individual German-style fruit pies (apple, apricot, cherry, peach, and pineapple) that are baked, not fried, and are so popular they come with a four-per-customer limit. Local pit master Billy Ray Inman turned us on to Atwood's, describing how he and other longtime residents gather here regularly to discuss community events over the hearty Texas country breakfasts. Most of the cooking is still done by proprietor Charles Sivells and his son, Hardy, who tells us many members of the lunch crowd are partial to his enchiladas. We mean to try them first chance we get. *– V.B.W.*

CAFE 909 (6)

909 Second, 830/693-2126
Monday-Saturday, 5-10pm
www.cafe909.com

Cafe 909 is undoubtedly our favorite fine-dining destination in the Highland Lakes area. Chef/owner Mark Schmidt uses the term "rustic gourmet" to describe his restaurant, and we've come to understand that means excellence without pretension in every aspect of the operation. Schmidt's sophisticated menus always include inviting preparations of sweetbreads, foie gras, Texas game, Angus beef, pork, and seafood flown in fresh every few days. Menus change with the four seasons, allowing

continued on p.50

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-Mick Vann

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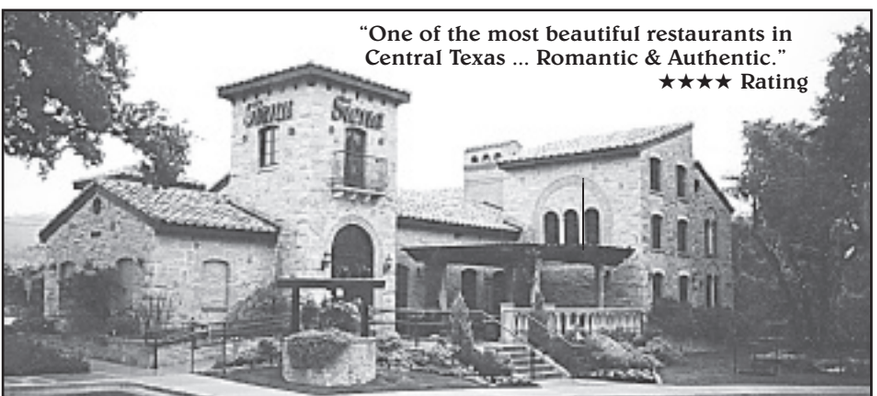
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JOHN ANDERSON

Cafe 909

him to add elements of the freshest seasonal ingredients to his flavorful presentations. The wine list is well-stocked with food-friendly vintages, and the selection of delightful aperitifs is not to be missed. Dress up or come casual, sit at a white-clothed table or grab a tall seat at the bar overlooking Schmidt's open kitchen, and prepare for a remarkable meal, expertly conceived and served. – *V.B.W.*

INMAN'S RANCH HOUSE BARBEQUE (7)

Highway 281 North & Sixth, 830/693-2711
Tuesday-Friday, 9am-5pm; Saturday, 9am-2pm; Sunday, 9am-1pm

Inman's Ranch House in Marble Falls started in 1964 as a satellite of Inman's Kitchen in Llano, and for the last 42 years, it hasn't changed a lick while remaining the definitive barbecue spot in town. It is run by Billy Ray Inman, son of founder Francis, who still comes in and pulls shifts and trades gossip with the regulars. (Francis himself is in fine form these days after his successful bypass operation.)

Inman's smokes two things in their oak-fired classic pit: Spice-Rubbed Beef Brisket ($7/pound) and an amazing Smoked Turkey Sausage ($6/pound; Billy Ray made 26,000 pounds last year). The brisket has a thick smoke ring and a complex and beefy flavor; it is so tender that you can cut it with a plastic spoon. The sausage is chunky, with pepper and garlic adding to the smoky turkey flavor; the casing has a good snap to it when it's cut. This is quite simply one of the best sausages we can find in the state.

Most folks get a plate when they come in (small: $5, large: $6) which gets you a single meat or a combo, delicious spicy and thick pinto beans, a delectable vinegar-based slaw, onions and pickles, white bread, and your choice of sweet or unsweet tea. The barbecue sauce is rich, thick, and dark, with a subtle sweet-sour flavor that perfectly complements the spicing used on the brisket and the sausage. It's a hell of a bargain, and when you get finished, you know what all the fuss is about.

– *Mick Vann*

JAMIN HOUSE CAFE (8)

617 Broadway, 830/693-3979
Thursday-Monday: lunch, 11am-2:30pm; dinner, 5-9pm
www.jaminhouse.com

Years ago, Jane and Bill Allen traded a life in the Cayman Islands for a Caribbean restaurant in this friendly Highland Lakes resort town. The popular Jamin House is now in its third location, a charming Victorian house a few blocks off Highway 281. Jane Allen is convinced this third spot is finally home. "Moving to the big building on the lake a few years back eventually forced us to become a much different restaurant than we really wanted to be," she says. "That place seated over 300 people and had a very big bar. This house seats 90 people and has a much cozier feel to it. It's much better suited to Bill's style of cooking." Bill Allen's cuisine reflects a Caribbean influence, with island herbs, spices, and peppers showing up in many dishes, be it beef, pork, poultry, or seafood. His jerk sauce and jerk mayo proved to be so popular with customers that they are now bottled and available for sale in the restaurant and online. Be sure to save room for dessert here: The light, tangy Key Lime Souffle Pie and decadently rich Banana Caramel Cream Pie are both delicious. – *V.B.W.*

JANIE'S MEXICAN FOOD (9)

710 Ave. N, 830/693-7204
Monday-Saturday, 7am-9pm; Sunday, 8am-1:45pm

Janie's Mexican Food started more than 30 years ago as a taco shack. Janie only had $1,000 when she started, so she would have her daughter run things in order to keep the place going while Janie cleaned houses. She knew that her homemade tortillas and scrumptious hot sauce would draw customers eventually, and she was right. Today, she has hosted some of Central Texas' most discerning Mexican-food aficionados, all of whom love her food and the friendly service. Part of her secret: She buys everything fresh, often going to the supermarket and paying higher prices than she would with a wholesaler, just to make sure she gets the best ingredients. The attention to detail makes for wonderful cuisine. – *W.M.*

BROTHERS BAKERY (10)

519 Hwy. 281 N., 830/798-8278
Monday-Friday, 6:30am-4pm; Saturday, 7:30am-3pm
www.brothersbakery.com

After hometown boy Ryan Malamud graduated from the baking and pastry program at the Culinary Institute of America, he returned to Marble Falls and created what every small town needs: a local bakery. Malamud describes himself as "a bread guy," and he keeps the shelves here loaded with loaves, rolls, and buns baked fresh daily. The pastry cases here are filled with cinnamon rolls, sausage kolaches, cookies, brownies, croissants, and Danish pastries. There's a full line of coffee drinks to enjoy with the pastries, and the lunch menu features hearty sandwiches ($5.99) on your choice of their fresh breads with chips, salsa, and a pickle spear. The sandwiches can be paired with tasty soups ($3.99) or a selection of inviting salads ($5.99). Brothers is the perfect place to order box lunches ($6.99 for a sandwich, chips, and a cookie), whether you're taking a boat out on the lake or taking a driving tour of area wineries. – *V.B.W.*

PEETE MESQUITE BBQ (11)

2407 Hwy. 281 N., 830/693-6531
Tuesday-Saturday, 10:30am-7pm

Wayne and Lanell Henderson's 1992 vintage restaurant is in a wooden building decorated with memorabilia and has air conditioning for the communal tables. Kevin and Debra Monks manage Peete's and do the cooking on the custom-built, rotisserie cabinet smokers fueled with mesquite coals.

The Dry-Rubbed Brisket ($8.25/pound) spends about eight to 10 hours spinning lazily around in a smoky cloud, with direct and indirect heat. We found some slices well-marbled and juicy, while the leaner cuts were a tad dry, but tasty after a dip in their tangy barbecue sauce. The ribs ($8.25/pound) are smoky and tender, with most of the fat properly rendered away in the smoker. Their sausage ($6.50 per ring) is a blend of beef and pork, made for Peete's in Austin. It's a fine grind, large-diameter ring, with subtle spicing. We prefer a more assertive flavor, but the locals seem to like it just fine.

They are also famous for their Pork Steak ($6.95 per steak), which is a thick bone-in cut from the shoulder. You can get turkey breast ($8.25/pound), chicken ($8.25 whole, $4.50 half), and chopped beef ($7.95). Sides include pintos, spud salad, macaroni salad, and a sweet slaw. Plates range from $9.95 for three meats to $7.95 for brisket and sausage, with family packs ($23.95 to $12.95) and daily specials at $6.45.

The Highlander News has thought enough of Peete Mesquite to pick it the best local barbecue for the past seven years, and regulars fiercely defend the quality of the dining experience. – *M.V.*









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FINE DINING, FRENCH: **CHEZ NOUS** This grande mere of Austin's French restaurants offers classic bistro fare. After all these years, we're still partial to the Salade Lyonnaise and the elegant Mousse au Chocolat. ***510 Neches, 473-2413 $$$***

TEX-MEX: **COPA BAR & GRILL** The newest Latin dance club in town features drinks, eats, live salsa and merengue on Fridays, as well as a Saturday DJ. ***217 Congress, 479-5002 $***

FINE DINING: **DRISKILL GRILL** A grand and sophisticated experience you can proudly share with the most exacting Manhattanite. Housed in the ornate Driskill Hotel, the Grill is home to soon-to-be-celebrity-chef David Bull's imaginative cuisine that is hardly economical but certainly a value. ***604 Brazos, 391-7162 $$$$***

FINE DINING, SEAFOOD: **EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Fine dining in a supper-club atmosphere with live music almost every night. They specialize in fresh seafood, oysters, and prime beef. ***301 E. Fifth, 472-1860 $$$$***

PUB GRUB: **FADÓ** Hearty Irish-inspired food and the only place in town that serves Guinness on draught *and* Guinness ice cream. ***214 W. Fourth, 457-0172 $***

STEAKHOUSE: **FLEMING'S PRIME STEAKHOUSE & WINE BAR** The main attraction is perfectly prepared beef presented in a comfortable, clubby setting and enhanced by an extensive wine list and accomplished service. ***320 E. Second, 457-1500 $$$$***

TEX-MEX: **JAIME'S SPANISH VILLAGE** Traditional Tex-Mex is complemented by the famous Margarita Jaime – a frozen margarita with fresh sangria on top. ***802 Red River, 476-5149 $$***

AMERICAN CAFE: **KATZ'S DELI & BAR** New York, New York! Austin's own posh-nosh, a sit-down deli for the late-night crowd. ***618 W. Sixth, 472-2037 $$***

MEDITERRANEAN: **MARAKESH** Large portions at reasonable prices and some of the best and most authentic Middle Eastern food in town make this place the total experience. ***906 Congress, 476-7735 $$***

VIETNAMESE: **MEKONG RIVER** Formerly known as Công Lý, find the same pho, but you can't listen to ABBA until 2am. A staple for quick, cheap, and tasty meals. ***215 E. Sixth, 236-8878 $***

CAFETERIA/BUFFET: **MONGOLIAN BBQ** Have it your way, the Mongolian way. Choose your meat, choose your vegetables and sauce, and they'll fry it all up before your eyes. ***117 San Jacinto, 476-3938 $***

PAN-ASIAN: **NOODLE-ISM** The emphasis is on quality ingredients along with quick and friendly service. This is a place where vegans and carnivores can happily coexist. ***107 W. Fifth, 275-9988 $$***

FINE DINING: **STARLITE** Devotees may miss the cozy blue house uptown, but the charm is still there. Elegant and creative New American cuisine made with fresh, seasonal ingredients still complements affordable wine options. ***407 Colorado, 374-9012 $$$***

EAST

BARBECUE: **BEN'S LONGBRANCH BBQ** Smokin' good barbecue with deep historical roots. Solid sides, killer banana pudding and cobbler, a great beer selection, and fork-tender meats keep the hungry coming back. ***900 E. 11th, 477-2516 $***

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE, DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: **CLEMENTINE COFFEE BAR** The newest addition to Eastside's own restaurant row offers a full menu of coffee beverages, paninis, salads, and pastries from Russell's Bakery. ***2200 Manor Rd., 472-9900 $***

AMERICAN CAFE: **DANDELION CAFE** Look for a focus on healthy food in a casual, fun environment. Morning dishes like breakfast pie and granola are available all day, along with classics like grilled cheese, BLT, and the PB&J. ***1115 E. 11th, 542-9542 $***

TEX-MEX: **EL CHILITO** Fresh, fast, and portable: That's what you can expect from this festive corner taqueria. Don't miss the *conchinita* in fresh corn tortillas, or the great paleta selection. ***2219 Manor Rd., 382-3797 $***

INTERIOR MEXICAN, TAKEOUT: **EL REGIO** The pollo asado is served with borracho beans, tortillas, grilled onions, tomato salsa, and lime wedges, plus a scrumptious green avocado salsa. ***6615 Berkman, 933-9557 $***

TEX-MEX: **INOCENTE'S CAFE** A great place to sip an icy *agua de horchata*, enjoy good Tex-Mex cuisine, and soak up the flavor of the neighborhood. ***2337 E. Cesar Chavez, 479-0218 $$***

TEX-MEX: **LA MORENITA MEXICAN RESTAURANT** By the smells and bright brick-and-tile interior you can guess what's on the menu, and that's just fine with the regulars. ***2944 E. 12th, 472-4841 $***

INTERIOR MEXICAN: **LOS COMALES GRACIELA** Expert purveyors of real Norteño-style grilled meats and side dishes. Reliable Interior dishes such as *puerco en chile colorado* and *pollo en mole poblano* round out the menu. ***2136 E. Seventh, 480-9358 $$***

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: **MAXINE'S SOUL KITCHEN** Look for beef tips, chopped steak, brisket, and other multiple-napkin treats that stick to the ribs as well as the soul. ***2931 E. 12th, 220-3650 $***

VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: **MR. NATURAL** A juice bar, bakery, health food store, and vegetarian Mexican restaurant in one: your one-stop shop for soybean ceviche, pineapple empanadas, and queen bee royal jelly. ***1901 E. Cesar Chavez, 477-5228 $***

CAJUN/CREOLE: **PAPPADEAUX** Items here include po'boys, dinner plates, and combos with shrimp, oysters, and crab. Order the fish fried, blackened, or charbroiled with a variety of side dishes. ***6319 N. I-35, 452-9363 $$$***

MIDDLE EASTERN: **THE PYRAMIDS** Chicken Shwarma Wraps, moussaka, and Lebanese iced tea convinced us to come back for dinner, and dinner is what convinced us to keep coming back for more. ***6019 N. I-35, 302-9600 $$***

TEX-MEX: **TAQUERIA LOS ALTOS** Great location, *conjunto* on the jukebox, and some of the best *enchiladas rojos* around. ***3301 N. I-35, 236-1219 $***

SEAFOOD: **TJ'S SEAFOOD** With a drive-through window for seafood lovers on the go, the menu here is a hybrid of Southern American and Asian fried foods. ***1900 E. Seventh, 469-9038 $***

LAKE

TEX-MEX: **IGUANA GRILL** A medium-priced menu offers most of the standards, but the flautas and sauces really stand out. Fabulous margaritas and a stellar beer selection go well with a killer view. ***2900 RR 620 N., 266-8439 $$***

BARBECUE: **OPIE'S BARBECUE** Get there in a hurry because the pork chops go fast. The usual sides of coleslaw, beans, and potato salad keep them company. ***125 Spur 191, 830/693-8660 $***

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: **SPRINGHILL RESTAURANT** The daily buffet always features fried catfish, vegetables, and several choices for non-fish-eaters as well. ***13212 W. Hwy. 71, 263-3244 $$***

AMERICAN CAFE: **TRUE GRITS TEXAS GRILL** The food is of the real-deal, made-from-scratch, Texas-cafe variety. Beef anchors the menu, assisted by chicken-fried everything. Dozens of homemade pies and sturdy coffee, too. ***18645 FM 1431, 267-4749 $$***

NORTH

PIZZA: **BRICK OVEN RESTAURANT** Serves home-style, thin-crust pizzas – some of the best in town – with a personal touch. ***10710 Research, 345-6181 $$***

ITALIAN: **BUCA DI BEPPO** This national chain serves "immigrant Southern Italian" cuisine. Dishes are served family-style, or personalized for two with smaller portions. ***3612 Tudor, 342-8462 $$$***

ITALIAN: **ITALIAN GARDEN RESTAURANT** From the bowl of croutons on every table to the delicate herbal house dressing, they specialize in hearty southern Italian, "Brooklyn-style" fare. ***14611 FM 1325, 388-1062 $$***

VIETNAMESE: **SAGIANG** They specialize in over-the-top, tasty grilled beef, chicken, pork, and shrimp skewers, but they also have great spring rolls and excellent bun and pho. ***12636 Research Blvd., 250-8400 $$***

INDIAN: **SHALIMAR** Pakistani food that's second to none and a *gosht karahi* that'll really get your goat. Try the buffet, but it's even better to take a chance on the menu items. ***9310 N. Lamar, 719-3700 $$***

VIETNAMESE: **SUNFLOWER RESTAURANT** Austin's go-to restaurant for traditional Vietnamese flavor; you'll find dishes here that you can't get at the competition. The shaking beef makes us quiver! ***8557 Research #146, 339-7860 $$***

VIETNAMESE: **TÂM DELI & CAFE** Authentic and exquisitely crafted Viet noodlehouse fare: particularly strong on appetizers, *bun*, pho, and desserts. Nice portions, good service, low prices. ***8222 N. Lamar, 834-6458 $***

TEX-MEX: **TAQUERIA ARANDAS #4** Mexican breakfasts, sweet *horchata*, and the sunny red and white interior could whisk the fog out of anyone's morning brain. ***834 Rundberg, 835-4369 $***

TEX-MEX: **TRES AMIGOS** Find all conceivable combos of menu items composing the dinners, plus specials such as chile rellenos, chimichangas, Fish Veracruz, and Steak Tampiqueno. ***7535 Hwy. 290 E., 926-4441 $$***

continued on p.53

Restaurant Ad of the Week

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NORTH CENTRAL

FINE DINING, ITALIAN: **ASTI TRATTORIA** For various Italian regional cuisines and an extensive wine list of mostly Italian and Cal-Ital selections, try this Hyde Park corner spot. ***408-C E. 43rd, 451-1218 $$$***

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: **AVENUE B GROCERY** These days Austin's oldest surviving grocery offers a bountiful menu of hot and cold sandwiches, an array of fresh salads, and hearty soups in the fall and winter. ***4403 Avenue B, 453-3921 $***

INTERNATIONAL: **BOOMERANG'S** Find 11 different flavors of authentic Aussie meat pies in flaky crusts. Very friendly counter folks, and great coffee, too. ***3110 Guadalupe, 380-0032 $***

BURGER JOINT: **BURGER TEX** Build your own burger at this longtime, no-frills restaurant. ***5420 Airport, 453-8772 $***

TEX-MEX: **EL POLLO FELIZ** Tender, juicy rotisserie chickens by the plate, whole bird, or party pack paired with reliable side dishes will make your wallet happy. ***6801 Airport, 323-6604 $***

ITALIAN: **MANDOLA'S ITALIAN MARKET** This market/restaurant from Houston's Mandola clan is attracting crowds with imported Italian deli meats and cheeses, fresh-baked rustic breads and pastries, and homemade gelatos and sorbettos. Enjoy well-selected wines by the bottle and the glass and prepared foods to eat in or take out. ***4700 W. Guadalupe #12, 419-9700 $***

CHINESE, JAPANESE: **PEI WEI ASIAN DINER** A sleek diner atmosphere and affordable favorites keep us coming back for lunch and dinner. Choose your own combinations for noodle and rice bowls. ***1000 E. 41st (Hancock Center), 382-3860 $***

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: **QUACK'S 43RD STREET BAKERY** Carrying on the tradition of slacker-era Austin, it is a great place to luxuriate over coffee and a muffin. ***411 E. 43rd, 453-3399 $***

SEAFOOD: **QUALITY SEAFOOD** It's the place where all your favorite restaurants get their seafood, so you know it's the freshest. Hit the oyster bar for lunch or an early dinner. ***5621 Airport, 454-5827 $***

ITALIAN: **TONY'S ITALIAN VINEYARD** Count on plenty of garlic, tomato, and cream here. From pasta to eggplant parmesan, just about anything smothered in marinara sauce at Tony's is good. ***2828 Rio Grande, 476-5600 $$***

SOUTH

BARBECUE: **BERT'S BAR-B-Q** So small you might miss it, but this place has been around forever. Try the chicken. ***1200 S. Hwy. 290 W., 288-7879 $$***

VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: **CASA DE LUZ** Follow the walkway through herbs and flowers to the inviting, airy dining room for food that is organic, in season, vegan, and all-natural. ***1701 Toomey, 476-2535 $$***

CHINESE: **CHINA EMPEROR** Definitely try the General Tso's chicken, featuring a sinus-clearing spice rating. The hot and sour soup also leaves a pleasant, peppery afterburn. ***111 W. William Cannon #312, 443-2922 $$***

INTERIOR MEXICAN: **EL SOL Y LA LUNA** Their menu of breakfast specialties is available all day. Try the Omelette del Sol or the Omelette de la Luna. Live music on weekend evenings. ***1224 S. Congress, 444-7770 $$***

CAJUN/CREOLE: **EVANGELINE CAFE** Don't fill up on beer and the marvelous homemade potato chips with chipotle mayo for dipping, as po'boys, Cajun/Creole specialties, and fried seafood options await. ***8106 Brodie #110, 282-2586 $$***

CHINESE: **FIRE BOWL CAFE** Asian stir-fried rice bowls featuring your choice of veggies, beef, chicken, pork, shrimp, or salmon. ***5601 Brodie, 899-8998 $***

AMERICAN CAFE: **GALAXY CAFE** French-press coffee and jazz on Saturday nights up the cool factor, while bargain prices and delicious food keep you coming back. ***9911 Brodie Ln. #750, 233-6000 $$***

AMERICAN CAFE, FINE DINING: **GREEN PASTURES** The grande dame of Austin restaurants for more than 50 years. Sipping milk punch at Sunday brunch in this stately Southern mansion is one of Austin's finest traditions. ***811 W. Live Oak, 444-4747 $$$$***

BARBECUE, SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME, STEAKHOUSE: **HILL'S CAFE** Hill's Cafe has been around off and on since 1947 and is well-known not just for its chicken-fried steak and barbecue, but for some big music in a small space. ***4700 S. Congress, 851-9300 $$***

INTERIOR MEXICAN: **JANITZIO** Grab a couple of *cocas en botellas* from the icebox and choose from among the Michoacan-style steak dinners, seafood platters, sopas, gorditas, tacos, and tortas. ***1422 Town Creek Dr., 442-6275 $***

VIETNAMESE: **LEE'S KITCHEN** Right at the corner of MoPac and William Cannon, Lee's Kitchen offers wonderfully fresh ingredients and well-made dishes, gracious service, and fair prices. Don't miss their Com Suón Bì Hôt Gà Ôp La, a delicious rice dish with barbecued pork chops, shredded pork, and a sunny-side-up fried egg. ***4404 W. William Cannon Ste. B, 899-8862 $***

ITALIAN: **OLIVE GARDEN ITALIAN RESTAURANT** This chain eatery serves reliable, generic Italian food at reasonable prices. A popular family place and a safe choice for those who fear the food-unknown. ***3940 S. Lamar, 440-0131 $$***

BARBECUE: **RICHARD JONES BBQ RESTAURANT & CATERING: THE ORIGINAL** Order takeout, or sit yourself down for some fast, delicious 'Q. ***2304 S. Congress, 444-2272 $***

UT

BARBECUE: **BONGO BBQ & BEER BARN** Sit-down barbecue and drive-through beer! Life doesn't get much sweeter or more convenient. ***1004 W. 24th, 478-7427 $$***

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP, DESSERTS: **CAFE MATISSE** We hear the food is as colorful as the decor and splashed with all the bright primaries used by its namesake. ***2025 Guadalupe #152, 236-0207 $***

BURGER JOINT: **DIRTY MARTIN'S KUM-BAK PLACE** Open since 1926, hamburgers, chicken-fried steaks, and pork chops are still done on the griddle. ***2808 Guadalupe, 477-3173 $$***

TEX-MEX: **EL PATIO** These friendly folks have been serving up moderately priced Tex-Mex food with salsa and saltines since 1954. ***2938 Guadalupe, 476-5955 $$***

MIDDLE EASTERN: **GYRO KING** They carve your spiced meat from one of those rotating triangles. A take on the sandwich beyond the ordinary. ***2021 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor), 479-6222 $***

CHINESE: **JADE SUSHI & CHINESE CUISINE** Primarily a Chinese restaurant, but they do have a sushi bar with a limited selection. Best choice: the Eel Hand Roll. ***3704 N. I-35, 459-6001 $$***

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: **LITTLE CITY** Popular coffee shop's nearest campus location, informally known as Itty Bitty City. Vast drink selection and happy hour specials, as well as top-notch baked goods. ***2604 Guadalupe, 467-2326 $***

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP, DELIVERY: **LONGHORN PO-BOYS & FALAFEL** It seems unlikely, but this tasty and unassuming sandwich shop makes some of the city's best and cheapest falafel. Famous for their stuffed grape leaves. ***2901-B Medical Arts, 495-9228 $***

THAI: **MADAM MAM'S** Fans and regulars are always borderline obsessed. The authentic Thai homestyle dishes served in this popular campus-area spot are "Mam's" family recipes. ***2514 Guadalupe, 472-8306 $$***

PIZZA: **MILTO'S** Longtime UT-area institution serving both Italian and Greek specialties. Wonderful. ***2909 Guadalupe, 476-1021 $$***

AMERICAN CAFE: **O'S CAMPUS CAFE** Serving healthy, unique, and delicious food at fair prices. They offer simple breakfasts of assorted tacos, French toast, and pastries, as well as a nice lunch selection. ***24th & Speedway (A.C.E.S. Building on the UT campus), 232-9060 $***

CHINESE: **SUN HING CHINESE RESTAURANT** Kung Pao, General Tso, and other Chinese standbys served up fresh and inexpensively. ***2801 Guadalupe, 478-6504 $$***

THAI: **THAI NOODLES ETC. HOUSE** A good selection of Thai street foods, including Thai noodle soups, dry-noodle bowls, and stir-fry noodles. ***2602 Guadalupe, 494-1011 $***

WEST

INDIAN: **BOMBAY GRILL** Be sated by one of the *biryanis*, a spicy curry, or a tangy *vindaloo*. Try the Keema Naan, or the Aloo Paratha, whole-wheat bread stuffed with potatoes and peas. ***3249 Bee Caves Rd., 329-0234 $$***

AMERICAN CAFE: **BRENTWOOD TAVERN** The latest restaurant incarnation in the cute stone building at the Travis County Farmers' Market building offers affordable American and comfort food classics in ample portions. ***6701 Burnet Rd., 420-8118 $$***

AMERICAN CAFE, FINE DINING: **CASTLE HILL CAFE** After two decades in business, this eatery has a fresh, new look, with a recently redecorated interior and updated menu items. ***1101 W. Fifth, 476-0728 $$$***

INTERIOR MEXICAN: **CURRA'S GRILL** The wizards whip up handmade corn tortillas while you sip margaritas. Don't miss the chile rellenos with pecan cream sauce, or for breakfast, the huevos *machacado*. ***6801 Burnet Rd., 451-2560 $$***

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE
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screens

HISTORY REPEATS?
Nueva Onda Movie Night

Imagine it's 1988. You're sitting in Quack's on the Drag when a mop-headed guy named Rick starts talking up a storm about this film he's made. It's got a weird title, something like *It's Impossible to Learn to Plow by Reading Books*. He hands you a flier for a screening he and his pals are putting on. Oh, and he's making another movie, about directionless young people right here in Austin. You decide you'd rather catch a *Night Court* episode. Flash to 1991. You're a drug-company guinea pig with nurses poking and prodding you every hour. Meanwhile, you hang out, eat junk food, watch the boob tube, and talk. The guy next to you – wasn't he a cartoonist for *The Daily Texan*? – is talking about this short film he made, something called "Bedhead." It stars his younger brothers and sisters – the Rodriguez kids. He has big plans for a gangster-type film set in Mexico. There's a screening tonight. Coming? Nah, you'd rather watch *Blossom*.



TODDY BURTON

NUEVA ONDA
(2218 College off of South Congress, 447-5063)
Wednesday, Aug. 9, and every second Wednesday monthly
Kitchen opens 6:30pm; show starts at 8pm

Leap into the future. Next Wednesday. Nueva Onda Movie Night is going with a theme of Weird World. Steve Collins is showing his short film "Gretchen & the Night Danger," the 2004 SXSW award winner that grew into his feature film *Gretchen*, a hit at the most recent SXSW and L.A. festivals. It's the hilarious story of an awkward teen struggling with whether to let her boyfriend get to second base. Steve will be there and will also show his "The Ballad of Courtney & James," the tale of a woman's obsession with Abraham Lincoln. Oh, and another guy you'll be hearing more about in the future, Pritesh Chheda, has his "The Package," which unleashes demons from the past. Did I mention that Sundance veteran John Bryant will also be there with "Oh My God," about a man who discovers his family has been attacked and frames himself for it? That's still not enough? OK, they've got an animated short called "Saturday Afternoon Fever" and another short called "Debt Consolidated" – no explanation necessary. Did I mention it's free? Uh, also, you should know some of these films are a tad violent. Are you gonna be there? Or will you be at home watching *America's Got Talent* again? – *Joe O'Connell*

AMID YAHOOTINIS AND FREEBIES, A FOCUS ON THE FUTURE
BlogHer in San Jose

Santana Row is a promenade of high-end retail: Ferragamo, Burberry, Gucci, Oilily. At night, the sidewalks are lined with velvet ropes and beautiful people.

Tonight, bloggers are beautiful people, too.

In a room called Fabrizio – as if it were a person and not a place – bloggers are quaffing lemon drops and rooting through a pile of T-shirts in search of size-small swag. None are left by the time I arrive from the Hyatt San Jose in an ad-hoc posse: Photoshop guru Jan Kabili, Mecca Ibrahim (aka "Annie Mole") of the London Underground Tube diary, and IzzyMom, a blogger from Tampa.

The party rolls down the street to an Indian restaurant full of blue neon and breast implants. We misplace Susie Bright during our table wait; she appears minutes later with a cone from the Ben & Jerry's around the corner, which she shares with the group. Plenty of cameras come out when she passes it to Heather Armstrong of Dooce.com.

An elderly man passing by on the sidewalk observes us. "I like your site," he tells Armstrong.

This is the second year of the BlogHer conference, a two-day confab of tech talk, networking, and discussions about blog culture hosted by BlogHer.org, a popular group site for female bloggers. Not all of the attendees are women – the odd "BlogHim" can be seen strolling an infant, running a podcast, or plunking away quietly on a laptop – but women are on top here. The question posed at last year's con – "Where are the women bloggers?" – will be answered amply, with 700 participants packed into the event's second day.

Elisa Camahort, one of BlogHer's three co-founders, doesn't bother to contain her excitement while announcing to the ballroom that we've crashed the hotel's wireless.

The heady smell of estrogen has likewise lured big-ticket sponsors, which could be the surest proof that female bloggers are moving from the margins to the mainstream. Saturday's keynote speech, which features Six Apart's Mena Trott; Arianna Huffington; Caroline Little of WashingtonPost.com and Newsweek Interactive; and blogger Grace Davis, organizer of grassroots organization Hurricane Katrina Direct Relief, is brought to us by Johnson's, which is launching a blog directory for mothers. General Motors has brought its three new Saturn models, which are available outside for test drives, and swag bags of Crabtree & Evelyn body wash and lotion. "To help you relax after a hard day of blogging," the smiling Saturn rep tells me.

We all get minis of Contrex, a bottled water touted for its slimming properties and high mineral content. It tastes like a flagstone wall but is strangely fortifying. We get also a Ménage à Trois, a patented-design corkscrew that looks like a bullet vibrator with brass knuckles and a razor blade on top. It's an interesting product: thoughtfully designed with a woman in mind but a little scary and unasked-for, as well. I am tempted to try passing it through airport security.


LINDSAY BEYERSTEIN

Blogging and Identity Panel: (l-r) Marisa Treviño (www.latinalista.blogspot.com**), Carmen Van Kerckhove (**www.addictedtorace.com**), Maria Niles (**www.consumerpop.typepad.com/fizz**), Karen Walrond (**www.chookooloonks.com**)**

The level of sponsorship provides amenities absent from last year's conference, such as child care, a breast-feeding lounge, and cocktail parties with vodka drinks called "Yahootinis." Jory Des Jardins, another BlogHer co-founder, introduces the sponsors of the day's events each morning. "Do hug them if you want," she says.

But not everyone is happy. Some bloggers openly deride the "Be Janes," who are women's home-improvement experts featured on MSN and the portal BeJane.com. They have identical skinny jeans, bouffant hair, and baby tees, and they complete one another's sentences. Their names are Heidi and Eden, but they call one another Jane, a conceit I imagine to be concocted by marketers after extensive focus-group testing and Yahootinis. I'm not surprised they have one name between them: They're like a two-headed booth babe.

"Single women are kicking ass!" Heidi – or perhaps it is Eden? – proclaims during her welcome-session speech. Seventeen million single women in the United States own their homes, and the Janes want them to know they don't have to be afraid to swing a hammer or wire a fixture.

When they ask how many of us are intimidated by home repairs, the CEOs, self-taught geeks, and grassroots activists do not raise many hands. As commendable as the sponsors' efforts to support blogging-women may be, their perky overtures and diet water sometimes miss the mark in a crowd roused to applause by blogging chef Shuna Fish Lydon's remark that food is political and, "We all have to eat no matter how much we make, or the color of our skin."

Women within the BlogHer community do like fashion, style, and humor – the classic components of the daily newspaper's lifestyle pages – and advertisers are taking their page views seriously. Sunday's *San Francisco Chronicle* heralds the women's blogosphere as the "next marketing frontier" in a piece about the convention, while Microsoft blogger Robert Scoble marveled that women bloggers had "*huge* economic power and content power that the tech bloggers simply won't touch" due to advertisers' interest in passive-branding campaigns. Blogs and social-networking sites are also seen as viral-marketing gold mines.

The result is a new class of professional and freelance creatives – writers, photo-bloggers, podcasters, video-bloggers – courted by advertisers who want access to the hearts and minds of women at their computers. Women like Dooce.com's Armstrong and conference speaker Arieanna Foley – who has a small media empire of her own with 17 blogs – are examples of this trend. Bloggers who participate in advertising networks or syndicators, such as Bloglines or Austin-based BlogBurst, can make a living at their work if they are popular enough. While newspapers still struggle with the challenges of Web operations, women bloggers take up the question of the opinion writers missing from their pages.

But plenty of bloggers are cautious about the attention. During a breakout session about BlogHer's new advertising network, BlogHer co-founder Lisa Stone encourages bloggers to be wary of "major media companies" aiming to tap the her-blog zeitgeist with $50 contracts for writers. "There are not enough commas in that number," she says flatly. Blogs are intellectual property, Stone says, and bloggers who form business partnerships should be prepared to negotiate their terms instead of leaping at an offer for exposure.

Some outsiders don't seem to recognize the diversity of viewpoints in the women's blogosphere – nor the passion of bloggers' ideological convictions. During the "Let's Talk About Sex" panel, "Web-based woman of pleasure" Melissa Gira takes Web-based Elexa by Trojan spokeswoman Logan Levkoff to task for the company's use of the spermicide nonoxynol-9: "It's essentially a detergent that irritates your cunt." Levkoff, who is more camera-ready but a lot less fun than the other panelists, spins it by informing us that Elexa by Trojan products do not contain nonoxynol-9.

Finally, while I can't name names, around me there is also some mild discomfort about a miniature dot-com bubble bursting in the blogosphere. We could blame the Yahootini, the appetizer buffet we ate for dinner, or the very cute Saturn Sky roadster in the parking lot. But I won't. – *Marrit Ingman*

Slam Planet plays the Alamo Drafthouse South at 10pm on Monday, Aug. 7, and Tuesday, Aug. 8. For a SXSW 06 interview with Mike Henry and Kyle Fuller, see **austin chronicle.com/gyrobase/issue/story?oid=oid%3A346291**.



TV EYE

Alternate Realities, Other Lives

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

Something bugged me about my review of *Al Otro Lado* ("A Little Border Music," **austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Issue/column?oid=oid%3A390557**) last week. There was something missing in what I wrote that I couldn't put my finger on until I saw the second-season premiere of **Morgan Spurlock**'s reality series, *30 Days* (executive produced with R.J. Cutler of *American High* and *Black. White*). In *30 Days*, an individual (sometimes Spurlock) is taken out of his comfort zone to live in someone else's shoes for 30 days; the more diametrically opposed those shoes are, the better. The inspiration comes from Spurlock's highly successful independent film *Super Size Me* in which he lives on a McDonald's diet to prove, among many things, why Americans are the fattest people on the globe.

Just after turning in the *Al Otro Lado* piece, I tuned into the *30 Days* season premiere. In it, a Minuteman moves in with a family of undocumented Mexicans. Maybe because the Minuteman, Frank George (aka Francisco Jorge), is Cuban-born and speaks fluent Spanish, his experience leads him to the tidy conclusion that the family he meets are



Frank George in *30 Days*

decent, hardworking people. George doesn't change his stance on illegal immigration (laws are meant to be obeyed), but he no longer does tattletale patrol on the border, preferring instead to work immigration legislation – in what way is not made clear. The only thing missing from George's epiphany was the swell of violins and someone strumming "We Are the World" on a guitar in the background. And this is when it hit me. With the glut of reality TV this summer, I have to ask: Where is the reality?

On TV, illegal immigration is cast in one of two versions: as an invasion of evil aliens bent on destroying the American way or as a liberal love story to salt-of-the-earth persistence. Where is the discussion of how corporate desire for cheap labor has directly shaped the history of immigration from Mexico and Central America and also how a class of working poor are the result of this desire, and more frighteningly, how the working poor are pit against immigrants in what threatens to be a sweaty smackdown among the dispossessed, while the moneyed few in their air-conditioned box seats remain unfettered as long as record profits continue to grow? No one touches them, and yet their actions have touched so many.

Even George, a supposed history buff and stickler for rules and details, is curiously oblivious to one interesting detail of his own immigration story. His family legally (George is proud to say) immigrated from Cuba to the U.S. in 1957. His father worked for an American sugar company. Were it not in that company's best interests to have him here, it's unlikely Francisco Jorge would have grown up to be the chest-beating, gun-toting U.S. Minuteman Frank George. This detail is unexamined in *30 Days*, as it is elsewhere. One wonders if George could imagine what his world would have been had that "generous" American sugar company decided they didn't need his father's labor, and his family was left behind in Cuba. George lives in Southern California now. In his alternate life, would he find himself in detention in Florida?

During the previous world wars, when the most atrocious crimes against humanity were occurring, Hollywood was churning out frothy, mindless musicals and screwball comedies that bore no reflection of reality. Calling reality TV a thing of beauty is a stretch, even for something as earnestly liberal as *30 Days*. No, for mind-numbing escapism, one need only look to the recent glut of talent show competitions (*America's Got Talent, So You Think You Can Dance, Rock Star: Supernova*), which bear a peculiar revision to the ideal of U.S. meritocracy: Bring us your song, bring us your dance, bring us your seltzer in your pants, and you will be rewarded with the ultimate American Dream – celebrity. If only those undocumented Mexicans would stop looking for work and start working on their trills and extensions.

30 Days airs Wednesdays at 9pm on FX. Check local listings for encore dates and times.

E-mail Belinda Acosta at **tveye@austinchronicle.com**.



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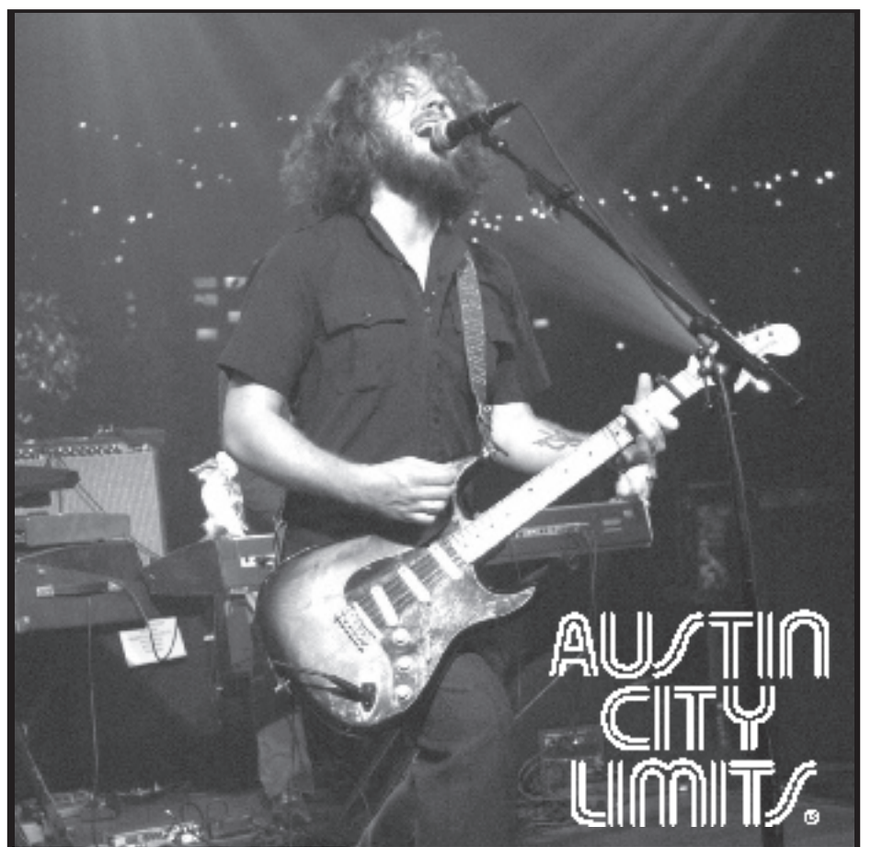
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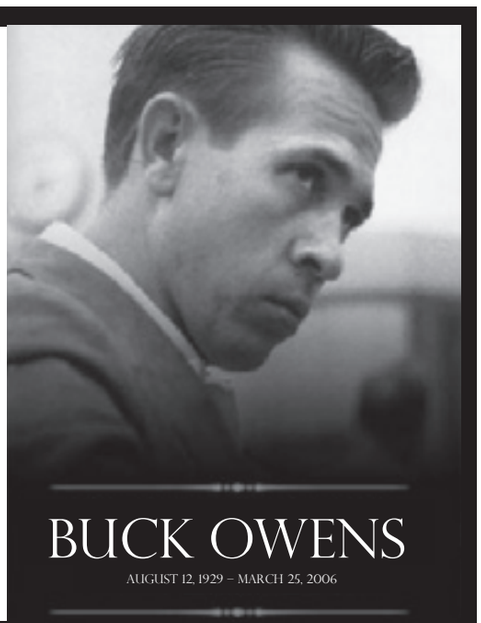
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music

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TCB music news

BY CHRISTOPHER GRAY



COURTNEY CHAVANELL

ALL IN THE FAMILY

Brothers and Sisters' mellow West Coast country-pop is the surprise local hit of 2006. Moreover, in an industry of artifice, they come by it honestly: Singer-songwriter **Will Courtney** started the supersized ensemble that he anchors with actual sister **Lily** last year after returning from a four-year sojourn in L.A., where he worked in the mail room of an A&R firm. "The president heard my demo, and it turned out he used to engineer **Neil Young** records in the Seventies," says Courtney. "He told me he wanted to help me get a deal, and that started to scare me because the way he was talking was all snaky and sneaky. I stepped away from him, and that ultimately cost me my job." Already driving an F-150 and wearing cowboy boots, Courtney figured he might as well move back to Texas, where he could start a band and help his parents run their record label, the **Calla Lily Company**. (His mother is a story all by herself: a gospel singer banned from Christian radio for her huge gay following.) Brothers and Sisters played their first show in October, and their earthy, honest sound struck an unlikely chord among local hipsters. "It's been really overwhelming," Courtney says. "I'm not saying I'm doing anything amazing or new, but I kind of feel like people are looking for that good, old feeling like those classic records. That's all I ever listen to, and I just want to keep that alive." Brothers and Sisters play the **Whisky Bar** tonight (Thursday) before heading west on a three-week tour.

GATES OF STEEL



Big **Chris Gates**, whose former bands (**Big Boys**, **Poison 13**, **Junkyard**, **Skatenigs**, **Charter Bulldogs**) nearly outnumber his tattoos, is one of Austin's biggest advocates for the **Health Alliance for Austin Musicians**, and with good reason: It opened up a whole new career for him as a honky-tonk troubadour. "They paid for me to have throat surgery a couple of years ago, to clear up my airway because I had really bad sleep apnea," says Gates. "An accidental byproduct of that was I began to be able to sing in tune for the first time in 10 years." Though the sawdust-floor and steel-guitar vibe of his current project, **Gatesville**, whose debut, *Ain't It Grand...*, came out last week, is light-years removed from the punk, metal, and industrial of his other bands, the seeds were sown riding around in his dad's pickup listening to KVET in the Seventies. "Even as far back as Poison 13, bits of roots music began to creep in, and it more or less follows Junkyard through this," says Gates. He enlisted **Jon Dee Graham** and **Ray Wylie Hubbard** for songwriting pointers and retrained himself to write the lyrics first. "It was a painful process," he says. "I wrote for 30 or 45 minutes every day and began to get two lines here and there. Sometime in the third week, I got a whole song."

VANISHING ACT

Austin prank-rockers **Awesome Cool Dudes** had high hopes for their summer tour, with several dates booked in their native Midwest and, says guitarist **Cory Plump**, "a good amount of money coming our way." But 10 shows in, after a show at the **Milestone** in Charlotte, N.C., they loaded their van and went inside to settle up. When they came back out, 10 short minutes later, the van was gone. "There was just a pile of glass where they smashed the window," Plump says. "All we came out of it with was a laptop and our band fund, because we always keep that on us." Police recovered the van the next day, minus all their equipment, merchandise, and personal effects (although the thieves courteously left the band's adult literature). The window, ignition, and muffler/exhaust were damaged ("They backed it into something"), but they were able to drive it back to Austin, scuttling the remaining 19 dates of the tour. "We're obviously pretty crushed," Plump laments. "It had the markings of a pretty successful tour." The Dudes hope to make up some of the dates on their way to this fall's **Pop Montreal** festival. A friend started the donation-accepting Web site **SaveTheAwesomeCoolDudes.com**, and **Daniel Francis Doyle** and many others play a benefit at **Beerland**, Aug. 12.

PATRICE WATCH



After last week's "Helter Skelter" spat with **Jill**, **Patrice Pike**'s Tuesday tête-à-tête with co-host **Dave Navarro** nearly got her tossed from ***Rockstar: Supernova***. Pike chose the **Black Crowes**' "Remedy," a song so squarely in her Austin-bred wheelhouse it irritated Navarro. "Frankly, I'm getting a little bored," he said, adding it might be wise to vary her stage performances. "Do you do a lot of different things when you're onstage, Dave?" she shot back as the audience gasped. Pike landed in the bottom three along with the ghastly **Zayra** and nonentity **Phil**, but saved her bacon with a mobile, animated rendition of **Radiohead**'s "My Iron Lung" on Wednesday's show. "That's what I'm talking about," gushed Supernova drummer/drooler **Tommy Lee**, and the band sent Phil home instead. *Rockstar* airs 8pm Tuesday and 7pm Wednesday on CBS.

SPINNING WHEEL

• **Bobby Doyle**, whose raspy voice and mellow piano playing were ideal for the low lights and chintzy decor of **Ego's Lounge**, passed away Sunday from lung cancer. He was 66. Long before becoming a fixture at the South Congress basement bar throughout the Nineties, Doyle, proficient in jazz, blues, R&B, pop, and gospel, briefly replaced **David Clayton-Thomas** in **Blood, Sweat, and Tears** in 1972. In the Sixties, the blind pianist formed the **Bobby Doyle Three**, with fellow Houstonian **Kenny Rogers** on stand-up bass. In fact, Rogers dropped out of UT to play with the trio full time, and much later said Doyle was the best musician he ever played with. More recently, Doyle held down regular gigs at the **Driskill Hotel** and **Eddie V's Edgewater Grill** and was inducted into the **Texas Music Hall of Fame** in 1999.

• No new developments on the **Rolling Stones** front, as promoter **Capital Sports & Entertainment** has its hands full with **Lollapalooza** this week. Better cash in those CDs anyway: No on-sale date for tickets to the Oct. 22 **Zilker Park** show has been announced, yet somehow they're already going for $218 on **StubHub.com**. The Sept. 23 Stones show in Halifax, Nova Scotia, is in a similar outdoor venue; tickets for that one are $317 for VIP Gold Circle (i.e., bleachers erected near the stage), $116 for general admission, and $96 for students. Those really looking to splurge should investigate the deluxe travel packages at **rollingstones.fanasylum.com**.

• The **Alamo Drafthouse** goes uptown this month: 7pm tonight (Thursday), **Graham Reynolds** and his ***Scanner Darkly*** ensemble encore last month's sold-out concert before a screening of the **Richard Linklater** film at the Alamo South. Tickets are $16 at the door or at **www.originalalamo.com**. Aug. 13, 5:30pm, **Austin Symphony** bassist and composer **P. Kellach Waddle** leads a chamber ensemble through several **Mozart** works before the director's cut of *Amadeus* at the Alamo Downtown. Waddle, a two-time Pulitzer nominee, warms up with a program of **Beethoven** and his own "Grendel's Pain" and the *Wuthering Heights*-inspired "The Brooding and Darkness of the Moors" on Aug. 8, 7:30pm, at **Hyde Park Methodist Church**. Advance tickets are $15 at **www.austinlibrary.org**.



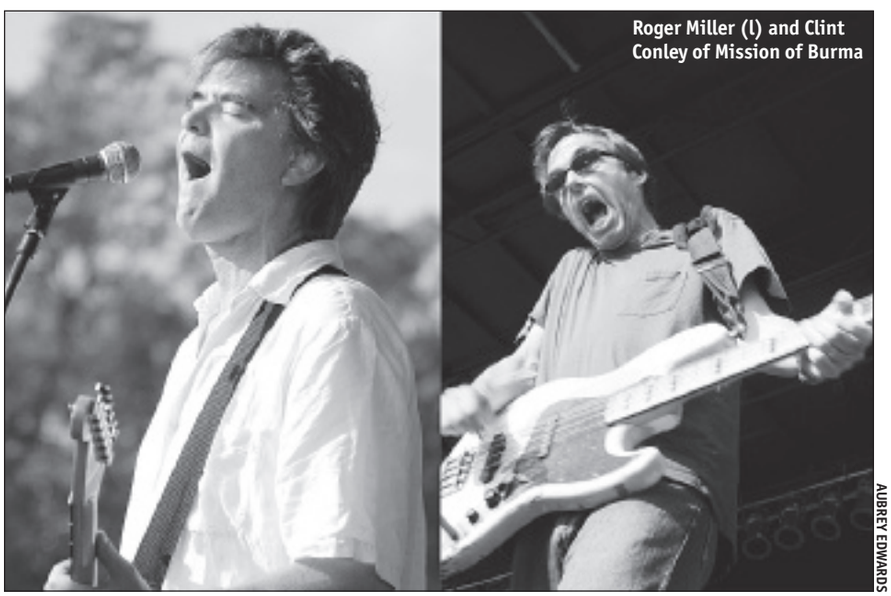
• KLBJ-FM drive-time deejay **Big Mike** knows that the best way to fight cancer is with smokin' licks and dirty tricks. All the proceeds, including poster sales and the auction of an **Alvarez** acoustic guitar (courtesy of **South Austin Music**), from tonight's Red Eyed Fly show with **Big Balls**, **Black Earth**, **Elvis on Speed**, and **Butcherwhite** go to the **American Cancer Society**'s Relay for Life. Tickets are $8 under 21 and $5 over.

• *Chronicle* Manhattan bureau chief **David Fricke** throws some ink **Ian McLagan**'s way in the Aug. 10 issue of *Rolling Stone*, praising *Spiritual Boy*, Mac's tribute to late friend and bandmate **Ronnie Lane**. "McLagan sings with a bright, rough voice and leads his **Bump Band** through these Lane tunes with raucous determination to keep alive for us the lad he knew," writes Fricke. Sadly, as "TCB" went to press Wednesday, we learned McLagan's wife **Kim** was killed in an automobile accident Wednesday morning. Further details were unavailable, but the *Chronicle* extends our deepest condolences to the McLagan family.



Spank Rock

AUBREY EDWARDS



Roger Miller (l) and Clint Conley of Mission of Burma

AUBREY EDWARDS

The Cult of Pitchfork

How former record-store clerks and obsessive music nerds turned a Web site into a hit machine

BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

There's never an excuse, in 2006, for men to wear tiny gym shorts in public, even in blistering, dead-of-summer heat. But there they were: grown men dressed like extras from *Meatballs* and women dressed in spandex and Olivia Newton-John headbands milling about, pawing records, throwing out obscure band names, and talking about their "early stuff." This is Chicago's Union Park, where thousands of fans have converged for the Pitchfork Music Festival. As a young blond man walks past with the requisite messenger bag, sleeveless shirt, and neck bandana, a weird vortex appears, as if all the clichés have altered time and space, leaving only one question:

Q: How many indie rockers does it take to screw in a lightbulb?

A: Dozens. One to screw it in and all the rest to say the first guy sold out.

Sure, it's easy to joke about the current state of indie rock. When Lester Bangs wrote his 1974 essay "How to Be a Rock Critic," he was being not-so-subtle in his disgust, but his ecstatic jive was kind of true: "Anybody can do this shit, all it takes is a high level of unconsciousness ... and some ability to sling bullshit around. ... You don't even have to think it up, all you gotta do is invest in a slingshot."

The Giant Slingshot of Bullshit might not reach as far now, but it's only because the landscape has changed severely. Since the Seventies halcyon days of *Creem* and *Rolling Stone*, the Internet has become the hype machine, and the hype machine has become a necessary evil for indie music. With the increasing necessity of the Internet, an interesting thing has happened in the last six years or so. Regular folks, not grizzled music critics or professional writers, have been able to write about, and subsequently hype, bands they like, with ever-growing audiences.

It's now easier for bands to become familiar names among music blogs like Largehearted Boy (**blog.largeheartedboy.com**) and Stereogum (**www.stereogum.com**). The Dallas-based Gorilla vs. Bear (**gorillavsbear.blogspot.com**) sang the praises of local favorites like Voxtrot; Sound Team; and Tacks, the Boy Disaster for months, while former Austinite Matt Sonzala ignited Houston hip-hop with his HoustonSoReal blog (**houstonsoreal.blogspot.com**). MySpace.com has helped bands immensely in grassroots promotion, allowing audio samples, photos, and contacts all on one page, while magazines like *Spin* have become formulaic in their ever-glowing reviews, forcing music fans who find the Killers' album about as new and exciting as a box of saltines to find other avenues.

For better or worse, the Chicago-based music Web site PitchforkMedia.com has become part of the indie lexicon in the last few years, not only for their humorous, definitive, and sometimes-dense reviews (and the subsequent number-rating system), but also their ability to elevate certain bands to "buzz" status with a single 9.0 rating. Most recently, it was Minneapolis quartet Tapes 'n Tapes, but in the past, Broken Social Scene, Clap Your Hands Say Yeah, and Wolf Parade all experienced a steaming pile of Pitchforked praise. And while reviewers rarely give a perfect 10.0, that honor was bestowed upon our own Trail of Dead for 2002's *Source Tags and Codes*. Radiohead's *Kid A* also received a perfect 10, while former Dismemberment Plan singer Travis Morrison's album *Travistan* was slapped with a 0.0, along with Sonic Youth's *NYC Ghosts & Flowers*.

Coincidentally, hating on Pitchfork and their alleged elitism has also become a fevered activity on the ol' Interweb. A few years ago, Sub Pop, not the first label one associates with biting satire, ran a parody of the site, with one headline reading, "Pitchfork Staff Member Says 'Hi' to Real-Life Woman." The Web site SomethingAwful.com also produced a parody called "Rich Dork" (**www.somethingawful.com/fake/richdork**), with fawning reviews of every Radiohead album and a spoof on Pitchfork's ratings system ("6.0-6.9: Needs more white guitarists with black-rimmed glasses"). It's obvious the 'Fork has touched a nerve.

Founder Ryan Schreiber's vision of what Pitchfork could be was a modest one. While living with his parents in 1995, the 19-year-old record-store clerk started the Web site from the Schreibers' suburban Minneapolis home.

"The Web was really in its infancy then, and there really wasn't that much out there," says Schreiber. "This was the mid-Nineties zine-scene boom, and all my friends were doing them, so that kind of inspired me, as well as national magazines like *Magnet*, which were just starting up. But the Web seemed like the best option; there was no overhead, which was nice because I had no money. I had no writing experience whatsoever, but I was kind of an opinionated kid, and I just wanted a way to bring that music I liked to new listeners."

The site was initially updated monthly, and Schreiber, now 30, remembers some of the first reviews he wrote as "painfully embarrassing." Slowly, he brought a few other local writers on board for sporadic reviews. As Pitchfork shuffled their Chuck Taylors into the new millennium, reviews were stretched from the original 100 to 500 words, allowing for steel-toed (and often impenetrable) criticism as well as humor and bile. They do their share of gushing, however.

"When we really get behind something full force, it's something the entire staff is into," says Schreiber, who tends to get really excited when we talk. "Anything other than what we're really enthusiastic about tends to be just one writer's opinion. And sometimes, the staff is really into something that gets slammed, but that's the nature of criticism."

The site's overhead is kept at a minimum, being an online-only publication, and revenue comes entirely from the site's ads. While

they won't reveal their numbers, it's obvious they're not doing too shabby. The site receives 150,000 to 170,000 unique visitors a day and has become a daily destination for discerning music fans. They currently offer five record reviews per day, live reviews, interviews, a blog-form news section, and weekly columns on everything from techno to hip-hop to the worst record covers of all time. But what does Schreiber think about the claim that their reviews make or break bands?

"I think the press gives us a little too much credit for that," he insists. "We get excited about a lot of stuff on the site, but very little goes on to get the acclaim that a band like Tapes 'n Tapes does. Ultimately, I think it depends on the quality of the band and whether they have the ability to connect with a lot of people."

PitchforkMedia.com has become part of the indie lexicon in the last few years, not only for their humorous, definitive, and sometimes-dense reviews, but also their ability to elevate certain bands to "buzz" status with a single 9.0 rating.


Destroyer

AUBREY EDWARDS

"Pitchfork's relevance in breaking a new band can't be underestimated, but it's not the only way a band can break out," says Misra Records head Phil Waldorf. "Locally, Black Angels are a great example. Pitchfork gave them a positive review, but nothing out of the ordinary, essentially a C-plus. They're doing well on a national level in spite of not having Pitchfork's hype machine behind their debut. That's happening organically – radio, blogs, print media, word of mouth, and loads of touring. When I worked at Other Music in New York, there was always a segment of people who hated the shop's editorial grandstanding. But, ultimately, Other Music introduced more people to more new music than if they just stuffed their shelves full of records and said nothing at all. It's the same way with Pitchfork."

Schreiber remains unapologetic for the site's negative reviews, but shoots down the claim that they're a bunch of elitist, bloodthirsty, hipsters wielding slingshots of bullshit.

"As for us destroying bands' careers ... I would hope that's not the case, because that's not our intent," he says. "But no one agrees with us 100 percent of the time. Once you get into people-pleasing, you lose what makes it criticism."

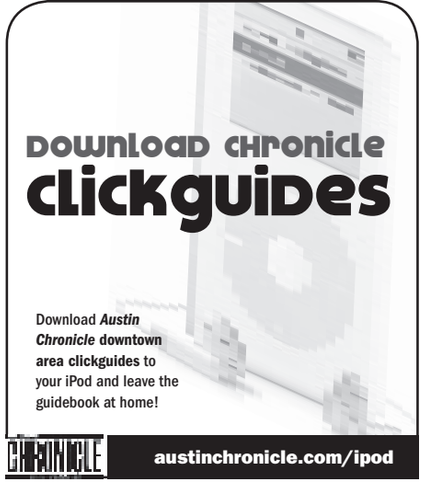
□

The hype machine never rests. For the second year in a row, Pitchfork put together its own music fest in Chicago. Last year, it was known as the Intonation Festival, and roughly 30,000 people attended the two-day event, with big names including Pitchfork darlings the Wrens and the Decemberists. This year, they broke with Intonation and put their own name on it, bringing in the Silver Jews, Yo La Tengo, Destroyer, Mission of Burma, Spoon, and a reunited Os Mutantes.

Despite the temperature, Saturday's lineup was a fair one. There was a disconcerting amount of high-fives during Band of Horses' set, and singer Ben Bridwell's voice sounded strained. The Chicago Underground Duo totally smoked with a mix of free jazz and electro-xylophone beats. Destroyer's marvelous vibrato echoed off the waves of the community pool directly behind the Connector stage, as "European Oils" and "Looters' Follies" harmonized with screaming children. Unfortunately, mastermind Dan Bejar's live set didn't match the gilded fervor of his latest, *Destroyer's Rubies*, and would have felt much fuller in a smaller venue.

Spank Rock's barn burner on the smaller Biz 3 stage was perhaps the most pleas-

continued on p.63



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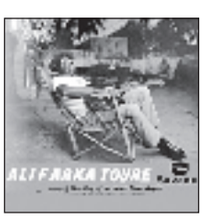
***Avatar* (Sub Pop)**

Comets on Fire have finally gotten a handle on their big, hot noise. *Avatar*, the band's third full-length, sparks up immediately with the churning of "Dogwood Rust," complete with a patented Comets on Fire freak-out/breakdown at the end. Singer/guitarist Ethan Miller's vocals have become more focused, descending into a blues croon rather than a sandpaper peyote howl, and you can usually understand what he's saying. The songs on *Avatar* have also taken noticeable shape since 2004's explosive, Echoplexed *Blue Cathedral*. While the extend-o-jams are still scratching at the gate, hushed vocal melodies and piano parts find the San Francisco quintet visiting Big Pink on the lilting, rapturous "Lucifer's Memory." In the interim since *Cathedral*, almost all of the band members have been involved in other projects (Ben Chasny's ongoing Six Organs of Admittance; Miller's jammy Howlin Rain; the Seventies pop of Utrillo Kushner's Colossal Yes), so it makes sense that *Avatar* sounds like all of those packed into one scorching fireball. The controlled chaos of "Jaybird" absolutely smokes, leveled by the lyrics "We hit the air like feathers blowing south"; the filling-rattler "Holy Teeth" comes closest to CoF's lunatic fringe, though the song could use less of Miller's larynx-throttling scream. Closer "Hatched Upon the Age" lends what appears to be a soft closing, but as Kushner's lonely piano lines approach re-entry, the whole thing explodes, leaving only acid-washed feedback and charred choogle. And then, abruptly, it's over. Solid and gaseous, dark and light in all the right places, this is the Comets' brightest so far.

★★★★ – *Audra Schroeder*

ALI FARKA TOURE

***Savane* (World Circuit/Nonesuch)**



When the great Malian guitarist Ali Farka Toure passed away in March at age 67, he left us with one of his most accomplished recordings. Bridging the physical and spiritual expanse between West African tradition and American blues innovation, *Savane* paints a vivid picture of Toure's Niafunké as a mysterious locale of desert wonder. Where farming is an act of monumental proportions, Toure cultivates bountiful crops born of the free-roaming soul of the nearby Niger River. Layering the sounds of the *ngoni* (a plucked lute), the *njarka* (single-string fiddle) and the *gurkel* (single-string guitar), Toure's majestic six-stringed excursions ruminate upon life as an act of communing with nature. Primarily sung in his native Peul dialect, lyrics address everything from cattle-rearing to the organizational beauty of democracy in its full egalitarian splendor. Incorporating contributions from British harmonica ace Little George Sueref, as well as legendary James Brown saxophonist Pee Wee Ellis, *Savane* serenades into a more grounded sense of consciousness, where earth between toes feels like a welcomed sanctuary. Born a noble rather than a griot, Toure made it a personal habit to reach far beyond petty circumstance in order to discover the full potential of music as a unifying force.

★★★★ – *Robert Gabriel*

LIVE SHOT



COURTNEY CHAVANELL

PEACHES

Emo's, July 29

Peaches is the forbidden fruit of pop music, promising sexual liberation and self-awareness to those daring enough to partake in her provocative and pornographic electrotrash. Saturday night at Emo's, the sold-out crowd devoured every bit of her raunchy grime raps and raucous burlesque bits. The 39-year-old Canadian siren, once known as Merrill Nisker, took the stage dressed in a shimmering gold-and-silver outfit with knee-high boots and matching accessories, like a prostitute prophet from the not-too-distant future, and heightened the crowd's arousal with "Tent in Your Pants" and "Fuck or Kill," both from her latest, *Impeach My Bush* (XL). Backed by her live band the Herms (J.D. Samson, Radio Sloan, and Samantha Maloney), Peaches put on a full-blown "Rock Show." She caressed her Flying V guitar like a phallus during "Give 'Er," busted out synchronized Kiss moves during "Two Guys (for Every Girl)," evoked her frequent collaborators in Eagles of Death Metal with her cocky falsetto and dirty garage rock on "You Love It," and married AC/DC with Joan Jett on "Boys Wanna Be Her." There were props (an inflatable penis that inevitably went limp during "Slippery Dick"; plastic breasts for "AA XXX"), costume changes (a XXX cape for "Fuck the Pain Away" and less clothing thereafter), and slogan-filled anthems ("Rock the Shocker," "Shake Yer Dix"). Other hedonistic shock-rockers might attempt to burn similar paths, but when Peaches lifted her left leg during "Hot Rod" and uttered the lines "Show me what you got/Rub it against my thigh," she revealed two of her own circular bruises. At least her followers knew she practiced what she preached. – *Austin Powell*

GOLDEN SMOG

***Another Fine Day* (Lost Highway)**



When last we left Golden Smog (1998's *Weird Tales*), Soul Asylum was derailed by colossal misfire *Let Your Dim Light Shine*, Wilco was about to shed its rootsy cocoon with *Summerteeth*, and the Jayhawks were on temporary leave from dominating AAA playlists. Now the Jayhawks are no more, Soul Asylum lost bassist Karl Mueller to cancer in 2005, and Wilco is worshipped by every muso with bedhead and a four-track – including de facto GS frontman Kraig Johnson. The onetime Run Westy Run singer's contributions, most co-written with Jayhawk alum Gary Louris, dominate *Another Fine Day* and echo *Yankee Hotel Foxtrot*'s formula of forlorn, bleary pop-rock sheathed in random amounts of ambient noise. Actual Wilco frontman and fellow Smogger Jeff Tweedy makes what amounts to a cameo in his own movie: background vocals and bittersweet, acoustic ballads "Long Time Ago" and "Listen Joe." Elsewhere, ex-'Hawk bassist Marc Perlman's "Cure for This" glistens with Sixties folk-pop dew, and SA guitarist Dan Murphy offers up that band's best song in a decade on "Hurricane." Although plucky, *Another Fine Day* never quite eclipses its members' better-known efforts. Then again, to quote the spirited refrain of their ELO-aping "Corvette," "The dream is never over."

★★★ – *Christopher Gray*

TAPES 'N TAPES

***The Loon* (XL Records)**



It's a story to warm the hearts of wannabe rockers still incubating dreams in their parents' garages: The Minneapolis quartet Tapes 'n Tapes recorded and released their debut, *The Loon*, on their own steam last fall and had record labels knocking within a week. Fast-forward less than a year later, and you've got an "it" band with a headlining tour under its belt and a record re-released on a real, live label. *The Loon* is an exercise in heavy-lidded ballsiness, from the herky-jerk spazz attack of opening track "Just Drums" to the bluesy, mostly instrumental smashup of "Crazy Eights." Singer Josh Grier pairs punky delivery with saucy lines like, "I've been a better lover with your mother" ("Cowbell"), while an euphonium blurts out the rhythm. This is a band that isn't afraid to take a few risks musically, staying true to recognizable aesthetics (like the pervasive Pavement influence, especially with that drawling lead guitar on "Jakov's Suite"), while at the same time futzing with the model, hence the presence of tinkling, druggy contemplations like "Manitoba." In this moment of plug-and-play rock bands that either want to be the next Radiohead or White Stripes, a bold group like Tapes 'n Tapes is a much-needed fork in the road.

★★★½ – *Melanie Haupt*

LATIN BEAT

Mexico was better represented by the high-powered *pachuco* mosh of Maldita Vecindad at Antone's recently than by their fútbol team at the World Cup. Argentina has its own issues. Argentine actress **Juana Molina**'s fourth disc, *Son* (Domino), makes a perfect blind date for Thom Yorke's *The Eraser*. Her electro-emotionalism, intimate and whispery, tangles more organic, yet its inner space remains bedroom-borne, particularly the luminous "Micael" and "Elena." The butterfly flit of Argentine institution **Enanitos Verdes**, now working their fourth decade, reels in *Pescado Original* (Universal). One expects more from a trio of so-called Green Dwarves, which ultimately serves up saccharine Latin pop and *Eddie & the Cruisers* rock: earnest, Eighties, Jersey boardwalk. Make that Long Island, per Billy Joel hoister "Qué Hacemos?" Spanish quartet **Dhira** takes those elements to unfortunate extremes on their eponymous debut, mixing in hip-, trip-, and world-hop for a meal all too bland. ***Silencio = Muerte: Red Hot + Latin*** (Nacional) hasn't lost any of its dark, chicory bite in the decade since its release; this reissue counts 17 tracks, five of them crisp, new bonuses including the Nortec Collective, Thievery Corporation, and Kinky. Los Lobos, Café Tacuba, and Cibo Matto star, but pairings such as Geggy Tah & King Chango and Los Fabulosos Cadillacs & Fishbone's "What's New Pussycat?" raise the dead. Aterciopelados, who morph into Laurie Anderson on *Red Hot + Latin*, birthed Andrea Echeverri's solo debut last year and now offer other half Héctor Buitrago's. Behind the curtain of **Conector** (Nacional), this cut chemist is a Colombian precursor to Austin's Charanga Cakewalk, dicing up boudoir beats, indigenous instrumentation, and diva birdcalls (Echeverri and Julieta Venegas). Genius in any tongue. That **Balún**'s *Something Comes Our Way* (Brilliante) out-quenches Conector with diet Tangerine Dream and a tinsel rain stick testifies to the San Juan, Puerto Rico, trio's own sound sorcery. Effervescent. – *Raoul Hernandez*















Os Mutantes

AUBREY EDWARDS

ant surprise. In between the DJ sampling both the Seeds' "Can't Seem to Make You Mine" and the Beach Boys' "California Girls," Spank tore it up live, busting out oh-shit dance moves as he used his prowess in the Baltimore club scene to incite a full-scale dance party onstage that nearly cracked the floorboards. A handful of sweaty front-rowers also received shots of Ketel One poured directly into their mouths by one of Spank's crew. The Futureheads sounded surprisingly fierce and full with their Buzzcocks saw, and the Silver Jews' headlining spot was padded by guest Jesus Lizard guitarist Duane Denison and Bobby Bare Jr. on backup vocals. Frontman David Berman was in fine form as the massive crowd stood backlit by an ornate church. Opener "Punks in the Beerlight" was a perfect end to the day.

The reunited Os Mutantes were the buzz of the weekend, and the fact that most of the people in the crowd weren't even born when the Brazilian trio originally began shaping its Tropicalia psych in the Sixties didn't stop random explosions of Woodstock-style dance.

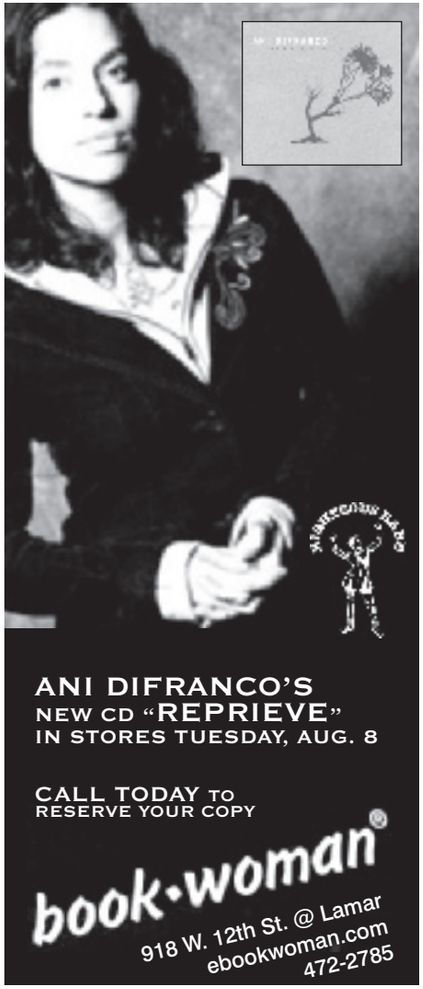
Sunday was better, although the gym shorts were even shorter. The disco strut of Brazilian sextet Cansei de Ser Sexy sounded 10 times as amplified as the singer bounced around in leopard-print spandex and dove into the crowd during the last song. The best part: hearing her say to the crowd in broken English, "You are all so beautiful! Can I have phone number?" Wilco drummer Glenn Kotche had the entire audience slackjawed as he beat the shit out of his kit and mic'd up a bunch of tiny boxes that made bird sounds, delving us all into some bizarre jungle-tribe dance.

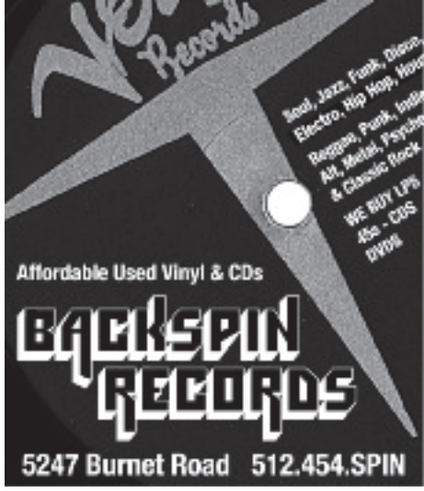
Bass-heavy Mission of Burma sounded just as pissed and tight as they did 20 years ago, bolting through opener "That's How I Escaped My Certain Fate," "Academy Fight Song," "That's When I Reach for My Revolver," and a few from their latest, *Obliterati*. Spoon started off their dusk set with a new song, and after a few technical difficulties, Britt Daniel & Co. swaggered through "I Turn My Camera On" and "Jonathon Fisk" but failed to reach the gravitas and urgency that lifers Yo La Tengo had just an hour earlier. Their last song was around 20 minutes long – yes, a "jam," but good gravy, they did it up right.

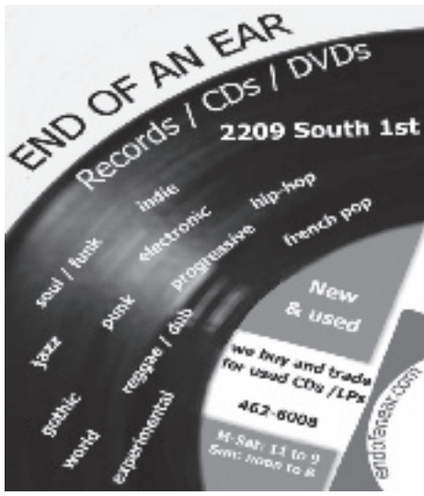
The reunited Os Mutantes were the buzz of the weekend, and the fact that most of the people in the crowd weren't even born when the Brazilian trio originally began shaping its Tropicalia psych in the Sixties didn't stop random explosions of Woodstock-style dance. Featuring original brothers Sérgio Dias and Arnaldo Baptista, but minus Rita Lee, the Mutantes got all *Godspell* on us, plowing through the Caetano Veloso-penned, bittersweet "Baby" and fevered "Cantor de Mambo." (Highlight of the night: seeing fellow festival performer Devendra Banhart shirtless and ecstatically clutching a bottle of Maker's Mark during "Baby.") Closer "A Minha Menina," one of the few songs they sang in Portuguese, was an obvious choice, though the crowd was already heading toward the exit. Eight hours in the sun is just too much for some fragile indie rockers.

The fest's lineup was pretty solid, and, for the most part, the veteran bands were the ones that tore shit up old-school. However, for a Web site that supposedly tries to remain objective, almost all the acts on the bill had received good reviews from the site, raising a question of whether these bands will continue to get love from the 'Fork. Will Spoon's next album get slammed? Maybe not. It would have been nice to see a bit more diversity, more hip-hop or experimental, or a few bands that aren't on the radar just yet, but, well, that's Pitchfork's job as tastemaker. Hell, we'll give it a 7.5, even with the Great Gym Short Disaster of 2006.

Besides, everyone knows bike shorts are *so* the new gym shorts. ■









News of the Weird

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



ROY TOMPKINS

A 47-year-old man was arrested in Milwaukee in June and charged with stabbing a 54-year-old man in (according to the police report) an argument about not having an argument.

LEAD STORY

The parents of wannabe singer-actor-celebrity Marissa Leigh, 16, of Scottsdale, Ariz., employ 10 people for her career development, according to an April *Arizona Republic* story, including manager; publicist; voice coach; two acting coaches; people to do make-up, hair and wardrobe; musical composer; photographer; and webmaster (plus, of course, an entourage of confidence-boosting friends). "She's spoiled," said her mother. "But hopefully, it's a grounded spoiled." However, on her national TV debut, on MTV's "My Super Sweet 16" (a party that her parents spent $150,000 to stage), she was caught saying "I'm a princess" and "I'm such a rock star that I can do this" and "I always get exactly what I want." Even after MTV cut the two songs she sang, she was optimistic: "(This show)'ll still put my name out there and stuff."

COMPELLING EXPLANATIONS

In Yorktown, N.Y., in June, one spouse who was roughed up by the other during a domestic eruption tried (as sometimes happens) to talk police out of filing charges. However, the battering spouse this time was Emily Hanlon-Tarasov, a novelist, and the explanation of her husband (who was knocked unconscious when Hanlon-Tarasov angrily threw a book) was fittingly creative: "A few things began flying at the wall," he said. "And one of them was a telephone book. And unfortunately, my head moved into the space that the book was flying (into)." Hanlon-Tarasov was nevertheless charged with assault.

LEAST COMPETENT CRIMINALS

A federal appeals court in June affirmed the conviction of Aaron Fraser (aka Asante Kahari) for defrauding a Michigan woman he had met in an Internet chat room and had eventually taken for $38,000 in a counterfeit check scam. (Kahari had sent the woman bogus checks for her to deposit into her account, then met her to collect the cash, and was gone by the time the bank realized the checks were counterfeit.) Kahari had denied the charges, but the prosecutor introduced portions of a book, *The Birth of a Criminal* by Asante Kahari, which describes in precise detail the very scheme Kahari was accused of pulling on the Michigan woman. "I would get online," he wrote, "meet a broad, and be mailing her the (computer-generated counterfeit) check the next day."

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

• A July poll of American attitudes on lying, conducted by The Associated Press and the market research firm Ipsos, revealed that many of the respondents could not bear to give poll-takers straight answers from one question to the next. For example, 40% said they "never" lied, but in the next question, about 10% of that 40% said they might even have lied just within the previous week. More than half said lying was "never" justified, but two-thirds then said lying is OK sometimes.

• British fitness trainer Liz Stuart conducts "Powerpramming" classes for new mothers, the centerpiece of which is the women's use of their own infants as weights for such exercises as bicep curls and chest presses (adding a kiss to each rep), as well as resistance in "power walks," according to a May Reuters dispatch from London. Said one mother, of her newfound quality time with her babies, "If I had to go to the gym and put the twins into a (nursery), it would cost me a fortune."

THE LAWS OF IRONY

• 1) In July, former peace activist Christiaan Briggs, 30 (who had gone to Iraq in 2003 to protest the impending U.S. attack), was arrested in Islington, England, and charged with knocking a man out (leaving him in a coma) in a fight after he allegedly hit on the man's girlfriend. 2) The British watchdog Environmental Agency, which prosecutes pollution violators, was fined the equivalent of nearly $14,000 in May for allowing toxic waste to flow from its monitoring station along the River Exe in Somerset. 3) In July, municipal officials in Provincetown, Mass., held a community meeting to air numerous complaints by heterosexuals that they are targets of hate speech by the town's large gay and lesbian population.

• What Goes Around, Comes Around: Colin Watson, 63, one of Britain's most notorious illegal collectors of rare bird eggs (having been convicted six times and having had nearly his entire collection confiscated by the government), fell to his death in May from a tree he had climbed in south Yorkshire to check out a nest.

• In June, the Ministry of Higher Education of Saudi Arabia (home of 15 of the 19 September 11 hijackers), along with the country's civil aviation authority, jointly announced scholarships for Saudi men and women for bachelor's and graduate-school study in the United States in such fields as "air traffic control," "flight safety," and "other majors related to the airline transport industry."

THE LITIGIOUS SOCIETY

• Max Foster, 18, complained to a *London Daily Telegraph* reporter in June that two police officers in Bath, England, had told him they were under instructions not to pursue a man who had been spotted on Foster's stolen mo-ped because the man was not wearing a helmet. According to Foster, the town's rules of engagement for officers discourage such chases because the suspect might fall off the mo-ped, hit his head, and sue the police.

• Jay and Laura Flynn of Lilburn, Ga., filed a $111 million lawsuit in June against Home Depot and the maker of Tile Perfect Stand'N Seal Grout Cleaner, charging that a defect caused toxic fumes that permanently destroyed half of Jay's lung capacity, which, among other effects, according to Laura, ended the couple's "extremely active love life." She added, "I mean every day. But now that is over."

• There Must Be Somebody We Can Sue: 1) Daughter Carriel Louah, 25, is suing her parents for at least $75,000 for the broken ankle she suffered in a fall on their property when she paid them an unexpected visit in Darlington, Wis., in 2005. The mother said she appreciated the surprise birthday visit but denied any negligence. (A judge refused to toss out the lawsuit in July.) 2) Jaime Pinedo filed a lawsuit in Hackensack, N.J., in June against the estate of his late brother's late girlfriend. Daniel Pinedo and Xiomara Ortiz were murdered in May 2004, execution style, by Ortiz's jealous former boyfriend, and Jaime Pinedo alleges that that was Ortiz's fault.

FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT

1) Marine veteran Christopher Marlowe, 25, was arrested in New Orleans in June and charged with shooting Army veteran Erik Beelman after an argument over which branch of service is tougher. 2) Pamela Majdan, 23, was charged with domestic battery in Wood Dale, Ill., on Memorial Day after allegedly repeatedly beating her sister, Joyce, 31, in a dispute over who had caught the most pieces of candy tossed during the town's holiday parade.

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at **newsoftheweird.blogspot.com** *(or* **www.newsoftheweird.com***). Send your Weird News to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or* **weirdnewstips@yahoo.com**.

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FEATURING EMCEE FOR LIFE KGSR'S **BRYAN BECK**
& **LIVE MUSIC** on the **PLANET K STAGE** from:

3:30-5pm
THE TEXAS SAPPHIRES



GUY FORSYTH 1:30-3pm



WHITE GHOST SHIVERS 12noon-1pm



11-11:30am
NEWBOY



sponsors

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE | TIME WARNER CABLE | KGSR | PLANET K | HEB | ZIEGENBOCK | CAPITAL METRO | CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK OF TEXAS

16th Annual *Austin Chronicle* HOT SAUCE CONTEST ENTRY FORM

To participate in the contest, fill out this form and check in at Waterloo Park between 10:30 and 11:30am on Sunday, Aug. 27, with two quarts of your best sauce in sturdy plastic disposable containers. We'll take it from there. Send entry form & check or money order payable to *The Austin Chronicle* to: Hot Sauce Contest, Austin Chronicle, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX, 78765. Entry into contest entitles entrant to one T-shirt regardless of number of salsas entered. **Chain restaurants may not enter as individual locations.** Deadline for mail-in entry is Wednesday, Aug. 23, 2006.

Name:_____

Address:_____

City/State/Zip:_____

Phone:_____

E-mail:_____

Individuals: *$20 per entry*
❑ Red
❑ Green
❑ Special Variety
❑ Pico de Gallo

COMMERCIAL BOTTLERS
PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD DETERMINED AT EVENT

Restaurants: *$25 per entry*
❑ Red (limit 2)
❑ Green (limit 2)
❑ Special Variety (limit 2)
❑ Pico de Gallo (limit 2)

CHAIN RESTAURANTS MAY ENTER ONLY TWO SAUCES PER CATEGORY.

AUSTIN CHRONICLE 2006 HOT SAUCE FESTIVAL

calendar

community p.66 + arts p.70 + film p.76 + music listings p.86

this week

COMMUNITY LISTINGS

(PLUS HIGHLIGHTS FROM ARTS, FILM, AND MUSIC) BY NORA ANKRUM



Thursday 03

2006 NATIONAL POETRY-SLAM PREVIEW WEEK is chock-ful of tasty spoken-word versification and diverse celebrations thereof. We *have* to mention it here – it's a community, that's certain – but we've put the event schedule in our Litera listings section (and a fine article on p.38), to which you're hereby directed.

ART FIX: FENG SHUI The Blanton's Art Fix series adds short programs on art, music, literature, lifestyle, and more to your museum experience. Learn the principles of feng shui this week, and find out how they apply to the Blanton. *6-7pm. Blanton Museum of Art, MLK & Congress, 471-7324.* **www.blantonmuseum.org**.

BLANKS ON A BLANK DEADLINE Inspired by the eagerly anticipated Samuel L. Jackson blockbuster ***Snakes on a Plane***, this Alamo Drafthouse contest challenges you to **make your own short film** based on other things that might be found on a thing. If your depiction of things on a thing is better than everybody else's, you'll get $500 and a flight to the world premiere of the movie in L.A. *Deadline: Today! (At 12mid.)* **www.blanksonablank.com**.

FIRST THURSDAY Music, food, and shopping. *From the river, south on South Congress. Free.*

IN TOUCH WITH KNOWLEDGE: THE EDUCATIONAL HISTORY OF BLIND PEOPLE This traveling exhibit – from Kentucky's Callahan Museum of the American Printing House for the Blind – tells the story of education for the blind through braille, audio, and visual components. *Through Sept. 30. Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 1100 W. 45th, 454-8631.* **www.tsbvi.edu**.

INSIDE BOOKS PROJECT VOLUNTEER NIGHT IBP sends books to Texas prisoners, and they can always use a hand with sorting mail, processing requests, shelving/sending books, etc. *Thu., 6-10pm; Sun., 7pm-12mid. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695.* **www.insidebooksproject.com**.

Where there's a will, there's a well.

[SEE SATURDAY, A FUNDRAISER FOR KENYA]

INVESTING IN YOU: REAL STEPS TO REAL ESTATE is a free workshop series from **Neighborhood Housing Services of Austin**, a local organization working to provide housing opportunities to low- and moderate-income families or individuals, as well as to people with disabilities. Tonight's class (taught in Spanish and English) will help you get started if you're just beginning to consider home ownership. Child care available with preregistration. *5:30-8:30pm. St. John's Recreation Center, 7500 Blessing Ave., 374-1300.* **www.nhsaustin.org**.

MIDWEEK AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET *4-7pm. Plaza Saltillo, 401 Comal, 236-0074.* **www.austinfarmersmarket.org**.

THEATRE (See Arts Listings)
Red Cans *The Off Center*

COMEDY (See Arts Listings)
Latino Comedy Project

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts)
Art on 5th, **Dougherty Arts Center**, **Mexic-Arte Museum**, **Women & Their Work**

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
***A Scanner Darkly* Extravaganza** @ *Alamo South, 7:15, 10:30*
Favela Rising @ *Alamo Downtown, 7pm*
One, Two, Three @ *Paramount, 7pm*
Slam Planet @ *Alamo South, 10:15pm*
The Apartment @ *Paramount, 9:15pm*

MUSIC (See Music Listings)
Brothers and Sisters *Whisky Bar*

Friday 04

AUSTIN JUNIOR FORUM BLOOD DRIVE *10am-7pm. Daniel H. Caswell House, 1404 West edit, 206-1246 or 343-1555.*

'PEOPLE UNITED'/'ALTERNATIVE RADIO' Today, on Koop 97.1FM: Tune in at 1pm to hear from Texans for Medical Marijuana on *People United*; then, at 2pm, *AR* features Eric Schlosser, author of *Reefer Madness: Sex, Drugs, and Cheap Labor in the American Black Market.* **www.koop.org**.

B SCENE AT THE BLANTON this month the Blanton heralds the 2006 National Poetry Slam Competition, with performances by both Austin Slam teams, interactive haiku sessions, a haiku deathmatch between Big Poppa E and the irrepressible Matthew John Conley, performances by national champ Roger Bonair-Agard, and music by DJ Nick Nack. *6-11pm. Blanton Museum of Art, MLK & Congress, 471-7234. $10 ($5, members).* **www.blantonmuseum.org**.

PEOPLE UNITED: TEXANS FOR MEDICAL MARIJUANA It's on your radio: Karen Heikkala of Texans for Medical Marijuana talks about her group. Allan Campbell hosts, with a weekly commentary from Rahul Mahajan. *Fri., Aug. 4, 1pm. 91.7 KOOP-FM.* **www.koop.org**.

LIVE FROM THE PLAZA features conjunto band Los Pinkys this week and pulled-pork or sausage sandwiches from Pig Out! at $6 a plate. *Noon-1pm. Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second, 974-2000. Free.* **www.ci.austin.tx.us/music/calendar.htm**.

GREYSHEETERS ANONYMOUS is a supportive program of abstinence from compulsive eating. *7:30-8:30pm. St. Catherine of Siena, 4800 Convict Hill, Rm. 210.* **www.greysheet.org**.

NAVIGATING BREAST CANCER TOGETHER MEETING for newly diagnosed women and their primary support partners. *6-8:30pm. St. David's Health Resource Center, 3000 N. I-35, 472-1738 x100.*

WOMEN IN HIP-HOP Featuring Lady Legacy, Poet on Watch, Houston's Perseph-one, and other special guests, this is an all-ages evening of music and poetry. *Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. $5.*

WORKSHOP FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS: SEX & INTIMACY DURING CANCER Learn how to help cancer patients cope with sex and intimacy issues. Please RSVP. *6pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 491-6610 x31.* **wallacel@lls.org**.

2006 NATIONAL POETRY SLAM PREVIEW WEEK (See Thursday 08/03)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
One, Two, Three @ *Paramount, 7pm*
The Apartment @ *Paramount, 9:15pm*
Videoke @ *Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid*
What Now, Skipper? @ *Beach Front Boat Rentals, 6:30pm*

the young ones

DON'T WAIT ... VACCINATE! All AISD students have to be fully immunized by the first day of school, **Aug. 15**. Immunizations, including some free and low-cost, are available at the following clinics: **Seton Community Health Centers** (McCarthy/324-4930, South/324-4940, Topfer/324-6850), **City of Austin Community Care Services Department** (Rosewood-Zaragosa/972-4792, South/972-4722, Northeast/972-4622, East/972-4322), **Shots for Tots** (two locations/972-5520), **ATCHHS Neighborhood Centers Public Health Nursing Program** (South/972-6854, Rosewood-Zaragosa/972-6790, St. John's/972-5787, mobile van/311), **People's Community Clinic** (708-3199), **Skippy Express AISD/Student Health Services** (various locations/414-6171), **Austin Regional Clinic** (Far West/346-6611, Brodie Lane/282-8967), and **Austin Area CareVan** (various locations/217-1220). **www.austinisd.org/academic/parentinfo**.

REGISTRATION FOR STUDENTS IN NEW ORLEANS PUBLIC SCHOOLS Hurricane evacuees planning to register children for the upcoming school year (which begins Thu., Sept. 7) in New Orleans' Recovery School District may do so online or by phone until all spaces are full; however, you must visit a New Orleans registration center in person by 5pm, Aug. 12, to provide signatures and required documentation. *877/453-2721.* **www.nolapublicschools.net**.

ACT REGISTRATION ends ***Fri., Aug. 18***, for you college-bound high schoolers out there. (Late registration ends *Fri., Aug. 25*, but will cost extra.) *Regular fee: $29 ($43, with Writing Test).* **www.actstudent.org**.

ACE TEDDY BEAR HOSPITAL Got a one-eyed teddy bear with stuffing falling out of his belly? Just bring him (or your favorite doll or blanket) by any Ace Tailors location, and they'll fix him up for a small donation ($5-10). Ace will then match that donation and give all proceeds to AISD's early-literacy program, the Pre-Kindergarten Demonstration School. *Through Sun., Aug. 6.* **www.acetailors.com**.

WANNA HELP INTRODUCE THE MACY'S PARADE IN NYC? Camp Broadway is seeking 600 performance-loving kids, ages 10-14, to participate in a five-day program in New York City and to perform the opening number of the 80th annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Be on TV, jumpstart your résumé, get a sequined taste of the Big Apple! Mind you, if you're chosen, the experience will cost you $695 (not including travel and housing); but such, sometimes, is part of the price of fame. Check their Web site for applications and details. *Fri., Aug. 4, 10am. UT's Winship Building, 24th & San Jacinto, Rm. 1.134.* **www.campbroadway.com**.

SUMMERSTOCK: THE STINKY CHEESE MAN AND OTHER FAIR(LY) STOOPID TALES Comedy fun for the whole family, as performed by high school and college students under the direction of Michael McKelvey. *Thu.-Fri., Aug. 3-4, 10am. Mary Moody Northen Theatre at St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress, 448-8484. $5.*

SUMMER SATURDAY SCAVENGER HUNTS Come by the store for the rules and the official List of Items, then return as many as possible by 6pm – first prize is a $15 Terra Toys gift certificate. *Terra Toys, 2438 W. Anderson, 445-4489. Free.*

SUMMER MUSICAL FOR CHILDREN: BONKERS' MAGIC TOY FACTORY is sure to keep your clown-loving kinder of ages 3-10 entertained with colorful shenanigans and sprightly tunes. *Through Aug. 6. Sat.-Sun., 1 & 4pm. Scottish Rite Theatre, 207 W. 18th, 472-7247. Free.* **www.summermusical.com**.

KIDSACTING'S SUMMER MUSICAL: BUGS! features young actors (ages 8-18) from the KidsActing program bringing a story of the human world into the buggy realm, with original songs by Jimmie Dale Gilmore, the Austin Lounge Lizards, and others. *Aug. 5-13. Fri.-Sat., 2:30 & 7pm; Sun., 1 & 5pm. Helm Fine Arts Center, 2900 Bunny Run (St. Stephen's School), 458-KIDS. $14 ($10, ages 11 and younger; $5, kids with a book for RIF).*

FREE BACK-TO-SCHOOL IMMUNIZATIONS All kids, from kindergarten to 12th grade, must have their immunizations current to attend school. This clinic offers free, confidental services for children accompanied by a parent or guardian, plus they'll have games, giveaways, and even a visit from a real firetruck to make everyone forget all about that whole needle part. Don't forget to bring along your child's immunization records. *Sat., Aug. 5, 9am-1pm. Seton Topfer Clinic, 8913 Collinfield Dr., 324-6852.*

FREE PHYSICALS FOR HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETES Dress comfortably in gym shorts and a T-shirt, and bring a parent or guardian; no appointment necessary. *Sat., Aug. 5, 10am-6pm. Round Rock Health Clinic, 2120 N. Mays #430, 324-3073.*

DEBO ADEJOBI: AFRICAN FOLK TALES AND MUSIC Nigerian storyteller Adejobi entertains with fables and tunes. *Sat., Aug. 5, 11:30am. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.*

YOUTH DANCE CAMP This day camp offers basic instruction in Latin and ballroom dancing; campers will also learn a choreographed routine to be performed at the Aug. 13 summer showcase. *9am-3pm, Mon.-Fri., Aug. 7-11. Texas Federation of Women's Clubs, 2312 San Gabriel, 453-3889.* **www.dancein.org**.

CAR-SEAT CHECK Safe Kids Austin is conducting free back-to-school car-seat inspections and giving away free backpacks as well. *Tue., Aug. 8, 9am-1pm. Capital Chevrolet, 6200 S. I-35, 324-8009.*

HARRY & THE POTTERS perform their special brand of "book-savvy punk," following opening band **Draco & the Malfoys**, as park of the Austin Public Library's **Summer Reading and Rocking Tour**. *Thu., Aug. 10, 6pm. Wooldridge Square Park, Guadalupe between Ninth & 10th, 974-7400.* **www.cityofaustin.org/library**.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The Austin Chronicle is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Aug. 18 issue is Monday, Aug. 7**. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail:

Kate X Messer or Kate Getty (The Gay Place): **gayplace@austinchronicle.com**.

Mark Fagan (Sports): **gameplans@austinchronicle.com**.

Nora Ankrum (everything else): **calendar@austinchronicle.com**.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor, 454-5766 or **brenner@austinchronicle.com**.

Saturday 05

A FUNDRAISER FOR KENYA features a photo exhibition of the Maasai people, Maasai beadwork, an extravagant silent auction, appetizers, and live music amid the philanthropic finery. "Where there's a will, there's a well." *Sat., Aug. 5, noon-4pm. Whit Hanks Antiques and Decorative Arts, 1214 W. Sixth, 478-2101.*

BACK-TO-SCHOOL FUNDRAISER An evening of music, massage, and Italian food, plus art and jewelry designed by local artists. All donations benefit the Assistance League of Austin's Operaton School Bell project, which helps financially needy students. *8pm. Kasbah Salon, 913 W. Mary, 445-4175. Free.* **www.kasbahsalon.com**.

CPR/FIRST AID CLASS *2-3pm. Austin Yoga School, 1122-C S. Lamar, 750-0586. $25.*

FIRST SATURDAY offers a day of private readings by church mediums. *10am-2pm. First Spiritualist Church of Hyde Park, 4200 Ave. D.*

INDEPENDENCE BREWERY TOUR/TAILGATE Take a free tour – with beer tastings – of the Independence Brewery, enjoy live music from **Texabama Brackish**, and take part in a "practice" tailgate party hosted by LonghornNation.com, followed by a screening of the 2006 Rose Bowl at 3pm. *1pm. 797-7879. Free.* **www.independencebrewing.com**.

THE RUDE BOOK EXCHANGE Those local gods of theatre, Rude Mechanicals, are hosting a book exchange (bring a book, take a book), and any *leftover* volumes will be donated to the Inside Books Project. *10am-2pm. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 476-7833.*

YELLER DAWG DEMOCRATS BRUNCH & DISCUSSION *11am. Tres Amigos, 1801 S. Capital of TX Hwy., 327-1776.* **bmcafee@austin.rr.com**.

YOGA FOR BACK PAIN *4-5:15pm. Yoga Solutions, 10008 Mount Rainier Dr., 963-8364. Donations accepted.* **yogasolutions@gmail.com**.

2006 NATIONAL POETRY SLAM PREVIEW WEEK (See Thursday 08/03)

IN TOUCH WITH KNOWLEDGE: THE EDUCATIONAL HISTORY OF BLIND PEOPLE *Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 1100 W. 45th, 454-8631.* **www.tsbvi.edu**. (See Thursday 08/03)

SUMMER BOAT SHOW *Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 404-4020. $7 (free, ages 10 and younger, ages 65 and older).* **www.austinboatshow.com**. (See Friday)

VISUAL ARTS (See Arts Listings)
The Museum of Natural and Artificial Ephemerata *Museum of Natural & Artificial Ephemerata*

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts)
First Unitarian Universalist Church, **Okay Mountain**, **Yard Dog Folk Art**

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory *@ Deep Eddy Pool, 8:30pm*
Playtime *@ Paramount, 7:30pm*

Sunday 06

BEMBE CONNECTION Open dance with live Afro-Cuban percussion. *7-9pm. Art Amici, 79 San Marcos St., 444-0371 or 657-5880.* **bembeconnection@hotmail.com**.

CAMP CASEY CARAVAN Help set up this year's Camp Casey, in preparation for the Aug. 12-14 events when Cindy Sheehan (fresh from Jordan, where she met with members of the Iraq parliament to discuss a peace plan) has yet another showdown with President Bush. *The carpooling caravan leaves for Crawford today at 1pm, from the UT LBJ School of Public Affairs parking lot.* **crawfordpeace.nfshost.com**.

HIROSHIMA & NAGASAKI REMEMBRANCE A gathering to remember the 1945 atomic bombings of Hiroshima (61 years ago today) and Nagasaki (three days later). You'll also be folding and hanging paper cranes in remembrance of those who suffered, as well as kicking off the Austin Center for Peace and Justice's campaign to fold 1,000 cranes by next year's anniversary. *7pm. Pfluger Pedestrian Bridge, First & Lamar.*



IDENTIFICATION DAY Bring your fossils, rocks, insects, or any other natural objects you're curious about, and the Texas Memorial Museum's scientists will identify them for you. *1-5pm. Texas Memorial Museum, 2400 Trinity, 471-1604. Free.* **www.texasmemorialmuseum.org**.

2006 NATIONAL POETRY SLAM PREVIEW WEEK (See Thursday 08/03)

INSIDE BOOKS PROJECT VOLUNTEER NIGHT *Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695.* **www.insidebooksproject.com**. (See Thursday 08/03)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
Playtime *@ Paramount, 7:30pm*
Urgh! A Music War *@ Alamo Downtown, 9:45pm*

Monday 07

AUSTIN AGAINST WAR MEETING *7pm. 2107 San Antonio, 323-9778.* **aaw@austinagainstwar.org**, **www.austinagainstwar.org**.

AUSTIN CYCLING ASSOCIATION MEETING *7pm. LCRA Board Room, 3700 Lake Austin Blvd.* **www.austincycling.org**.

AUSTIN TRAVEL CIRCLE MEETING *7pm. Austin International Youth Hostel, 2200 Lakeshore, 444-2294. Free.* **www.groups.yahoo.com/group/austintravelcircle**.

CIRCLE OF HEALTH INTERNATIONAL founder Sera Bonds brings you this seminar on the organization's work addressing those health needs particular to women in post-disaster/post-conflict areas of the world, including Louisiana, Israel, and Palestine. *7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar edit, 472-5050. Free.* **www.cohintl.org**.

FREE LEGAL ADVICE These night clinics offer child care and are right on the bus line. *6-7pm. Martin Middle School, 1601 Haskell.*

RED RIBBON DINNER SERIES: BISTRO 88 A gourmet meal with five courses, each paired with a different wine; proceeds benefit AIDS Services of Austin. *7pm. Bistro 88, 2712 Bee Caves Rd., 406-6115. $125.* **www.asaustin.org**.

THE AUSTIN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION Present your ideas, issues, and concerns during citizens' communications at each meeting. *5:30pm. One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Rd., 974-3251.*

2006 NATIONAL POETRY SLAM PREVIEW WEEK (See Thursday 08/03)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
Bring Me the Head of Alfredo Garcia *@ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm*
Slam Planet *@ Alamo South, 10:15pm*

Tuesday 08

AUSTIN CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS TO MILITARY TAXATION Call for meeting confirmation and location. *467-2946. Free.* **peacetax_tx@yahoo.com**, **www.acomt.org**, **www.thirdcoastactivist.org**.

DRINKING LIBERALLY meets weekly so that liberal and progressive types can drink and talk politics with like-minded citizens. *6:30pm. The Dog & Duck Pub, 406 W. 17th, 479-0598.* **austin@drinkingliberally.org**, **www.drinkingliberally.org**.

GRANDPARENTS RIGHTS ORGANIZATION MEETING Today is the second meeting of this support group for grandparents who're raising their grandchildren or who want to know more about their visitation rights. *7pm. Hyde Park United Methodist Church, 4001 Speedway, 830/693-4994.* **texasgrandparentsrightsheartline@hotmail.com**.

the GAY *place* BY KATE X MESSER AND KATE GETTY

HEY, HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN! We see you making an effort to bust out of that button-down race/class box you seemed so locked in … (The latest issue of *Equality*, HRC's glossy mag/rag, looks like a freakin' Benneton ad – that's a good thing, we think.) But like so many mimes feeling their way around so many glass booths: We can't hear you!!! Put us on your list, and we'll pimp you! Promise. C'mon: Do not deny the power of the **Gay Place**; give us a big hug. **lynnyeldell@yahoo.com**, **www.hrc.org/Template.cfm?Section=Austin_TX**.

ALL DRESSED IN WHITE PREMIERE Bridezillas. Same-sex marriage. Wife swap. Starter marriages. 50% divorce rate. Austin's hot lady art spot explores "emerging definitions of marriage" in this film/vid extravaganza. BYOgarter. *Thu., Aug. 3, 6-8pm. Women & Their Work, 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064.*

CAMPCAMP! This month's Follies du Faggotry happen at a *private location*, and as it is this column's policy to not disclose private locations, you are SOL unless you e-mail les Campers du Camp ASAPeeeee, for the folderol happens *tonight*, and tonight there is a show, mon petit lezzies et poooftairs, and it is called the **60 Hour Musical**. The whole he/shebang starts with a potluck, and that is not code for any other than "bring some freaking food to share." And, yes, even though there is a planned program, there will still be sign-ups for your 15 minutes of fame. *Aug. 3. Free.* **campcamp@letterboxes.org**.

ALL-LADIES HIP HOP NIGHT Featuring **Lady Legacy**, **Perseph One**, **DJ POW**, **MC Theory**, **Mello & Aurora**… Nothin' but sisters, and nothin' but real. *Fri., Aug. 4. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. $5.* **www.myspace.com/theladylegacy**, **www.myspace.com/perseph1**.

AMERICAN FIESTA What's gayer than a guy who collects colorful, deco dinnerware? Maybe his boyfriend. Come check out the **State Theatre**'s revival of **Steve Tomlinson**'s one-man ode to Americana through the world of vintage dishes. Held at the UT PAC. *Through Sun., Aug. 13. Performing Arts Center, 23rd & Robert Dedman Drive, 866/443-8849. $10-27.* **www.gettix.net**, **www.austintheatre.org**.

IDKE 8 REGISTRATION EXTENDED Online registration for the **International Drag King Extravaganza 8** (a truly international facial hair fiesta, wherein drag kings come from across the globe converge upon Austin (*Thu.-Sun., Oct. 19-22*) has been extended. This year's keynote's **Leslie Feinberg**. Deadline: *Fri., Sept. 15. $67 early registration.* **registration@idkeaustin.com**, **www.idkeaustin.com**.

AUSTIN AREA 2006 HIV RESOURCE GUIDE is out and about and available at a host of local nightlife loci. Pick one up today (and if you cannot find one at any of our local gay bars, call the group below). Plus, it is a great resource for those who just want to volunteer or help. *Austin Area HIV Planning Council, 505 Barton Springs Rd., Fifth Floor, 974-2615. Free.* **www.ci.austin.tx.us/hivcouncil/default.htm**.

STEAK & CHICKEN AT THE CAN Margie is back! Meat, salad, baked potato, $5! You know the grill. Yum. (Don't forget to tip the cutie cook!) *Thursdays, 6-9pm. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823. $5.*

WAG LIKE YOU MEAN IT The first ever **Wag Your TAIL Dog Walk** happens the third week of September. Canines and their pals will strut to promote what dogs know: TAIL – "Tolerance, Acceptance, Inclusion and Love." Register now for prizes and for TAILS in Training around Town Lake. The walk will benefit **Human Rights Campaign** and **Forgotten Friends Dog Rescue**. *Sat., Sept. 23. 484-0811, 698-4937.* **www.wagyourtail.org**.

ATTICUS CIRCLE Come join the grassroots gay-straight alliance that stands up for dignity, justice, and the (true) American way! *450-5188.* **info@atticuscircle.org**, **www.atticuscircle.org**, **www.myspace.com/atticuscircle**.

STEAK NIGHT & STRIP OFF Come out early for a $5 steak (or chicken) with all the fixins. **Charles Robinson** provides the tunes. Then stay late for **Jame Perry**'s original amateur strip-off. Mmmm, nothing like peeling outta yer trousers after a big plate o' beef! *Tuesdays, 6pm & 12mid. Charlie's, 1301 Lavaca, 474-6481.* **www.charliesaustin.com**.

FIRST FRIDAY DINNER CLUB This group of professional gay men and women meets on the first Friday of each month. Hence the name. *Fri., Aug. 4.* **joshloker@prideofaustin.com**, **firstfridays-subscribe@yahoogroups.com**.

ROCK AT THE CHAIN Every Wednesday enjoy a feast of rock in a hard place. This week, join these bands in the coziest li'l leather bar in Texas: **Crack in the Wall**, **Stanley Roy & the Pig F*&#ers**, **Ghetto Princess**, and from San Francisco, **Red Pony Clock**. *Wed., Aug. 9, 9pm. Chain Drive, 504 Willow, 480-9017.*

For more gay stuff, see Calendar online: **austinchronicle.com.** ***Send gay bits to*** **gayplace@austinchronicle.com.**

GUIDED-IMAGERY MEDITATION for beginners or those who haven't the proper meditation space at home. RSVP *7-8pm. Wellness by Design, 4701 Westgate Ste. C-301. Donations accepted.* **www.wellnessbydesign.us**.

JOBS WITH JUSTICE MEETING *Texas State Employees Union, 2700-C S. First, 448-4225. Free.* **www.jwj.org/LocalCoal/TX.htm**.

LONESTAR MENSA MONTHLY OPEN MEETING Free and open to the public; June's topic: "Biblical Archeology." Doug Foster shares artifacts and stories from his experiences participating in biblical archeological digs in Galilee. *7-8:45pm. North Village Library, 2139 W. Anderson, 836-5773.* **www.lsm.us.mensa.org**.

MEXICAN BINGO NIGHT Play for ice cream sundaes, T-shirts, CDs, books, and other prizes. Or for fun. *Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447. 25 cents per game.* **www.ventanadelsoul.org**.

SINGLE VOLUNTEERS OF AUSTIN MONTHLY MEETING SVA is where singles meet one another through volunteering. *6:30pm. Flores Mexican Restaurant, 2700 W. Anderson, 302-5470. Free.* **www.singlevolunteers.org/austin**.

2006 NATIONAL POETRY SLAM PREVIEW WEEK (See Thursday 08/03)

IN TOUCH WITH KNOWLEDGE: THE EDUCATIONAL HISTORY OF BLIND PEOPLE *Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 1100 W. 45th, 454-8631.* **www.tsbvi.edu**. (See Thursday 08/03)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
Bring Me the Head of Alfredo Garcia *@ Alamo Downtown, 7pm*
Mister Roberts *@ Paramount, 7pm*
Slam Planet *@ Alamo South, 10:15pm*
The Legend of Fong Sai-Yuk *@ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid*
Twelve Angry Men *@ Paramount, 9:30pm*

Wednesday 09

AUSTIN CHILD GUIDANCE CENTER OPEN HOUSE Established in 1951, the ACGC has a long history of treating kids in Central Texas and is conducting tours to educate the public on children's mental health services. *5:30-6:30pm. 810 W. 45th.*

BLUES ON THE GREEN Every other Wednesday this summer, go on out to Zilker for some free live music and food from County Line, Austin's Pizza, Baby Greens, and others (or you can bring your own picnic – we recommend string cheese and frozen Reese's Peanut Butter Cups). Don't forget your blanket to sit on. (See Club Listings) *Zilker Park Rock Island, 2100 Barton Springs Rd., 974-6700.* **www.kgsr.com**.

MEET THE DOCTOR: STEM CELL/BONE MARROW TRANSPLANTS Dr. Paul J. Shaughnessy is one of Texas' leading physicians specializing in blood cancers. Dinner will be served, and there will be a Q&A with area patients who've had successful transplants. Preregistration required. *6pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 491-6610 x26.* **guahardog@lls.org**.

METROPOLITAN BREAKFAST CLUB: A DARK DAY – THE UT TOWER SNIPER A talk from one of the officers who shot sniper Charles Whitman. *7-8:30am. UT Club, Darrell Royal Memorial Stadium, sixth floor, 2108 E. Robert Dedman, 479-9460. $15, members & first-time guests.* **www.mbcaustin.org**.

2006 NATIONAL POETRY SLAM PREVIEW WEEK (See Thursday 08/03)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
Bring Me the Head of Alfredo Garcia *@ Alamo Downtown, 7pm*
Dirty Harry *@ Paramount, 7pm*
Monty Python and the Holy Grail *@ Central Market North, 9pm*
Weird World *@ Nueva Onda, 8pm*

Thursday 10

15TH ANNUAL BUCK OWENS BIRTHDAY BASH A hoot night to salute the country legend and to benefit the Center for Child Protection. (See Club Listings) *7pm. Continental Club, 1315 S. Congress, 441-2444. $15.* **www.centerforchildprotection.org**.

BACKPACK DRIVE Women Supporting Women is making sure all Austin students have the school supplies they need this fall. You can help today by dropping off new backpacks filled with back-to-school supplies at the *George Washington Carver Museum & Cultural Center, 1165 Angelina. 4-8pm. 419-1001.*

INVESTING IN YOU: REAL STEPS TO REAL ESTATE is a free workshop series from **Neighborhood Housing Services of Austin**. Tonight's class (taught in Spanish and English) is for people who are ready to buy a home but need help getting everything in order. Free gift card and child care available with preregistration; food and refreshments provided. *5:30-8:30pm. St. John's Recreation Center, 7500 Blessing Ave., 374-1300.* **www.nhsaustin.org**.

MIRACLE TREAT DAY "Hmm, where should I get my ice cream today?" Is that what you were just saying? Well, DQ *is* donating funds from Blizzards to Children's Miracle Network today. Just sayin'. *All Dairy Queen locations, including: 2301 S. Lamar & 8728 N. Lamar.* **www.dairyqueen.com**.

WESTERN OAK HILL NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING LAND USE MEETING *7-9pm. Travis County West Rural Community Center, 8656 Hwy. 71 W.*

INSIDE BOOKS PROJECT VOLUNTEER NIGHT *Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695.* **www.insidebooksproject.com**. (See Thursday 08/03)

MIDWEEK AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET *4-7pm. Plaza Saltillo, 401 Comal, 236-0074.* **www.austinfarmersmarket.org**.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
Dirty Harry *@ Paramount, 7pm*
The Wild One *@ Glenn at the Backyard, 8:45pm*

Sports

BY MARK FAGAN

THE MAIN EVENT

TEXAS ROLLERGIRLS CHAMPIONSHIP BOUT Two-time champions the Honky Tonk Heartbreakers will take the rink to face the only team to beat them in almost three years, the Hotrod Honeys. There'll also be a bout for third place featuring the Hell Marys and the Hustlers, and live music supplied by the Feelers of Columbus, Ohio, and Austin's own Honky. *Sun., Aug. 6, 6:30pm (doors). Playland Skate Center, 8822 McCann Dr., 452-1901. $12 (advance), $15 (door).* **www.txrollergirls.com**.

RECREATION & FITNESS

SUMMER SWIMMING We live in Texas. It's *hot*. Sometimes unbearably so. Luckily for us the Parks & Recreation Department lords over 48 public pool facilities including 12 wading pools, two water playscapes, six municipal pools, the Emma Long waterfront, and our beloved Barton Springs Pool. See their Web site for schedules and activities or check here for pool closings, openings, and special events in the future. **www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/pools_schedule.htm**.



FIRST SATURDAY AT HARVEY PENICK GOLF COURSE will include lots of new and used golf equipment. Also, there will be a putting contest, closest-to-the-pin contest, and free 30-minute golf lessons. *Sat., Aug. 5, 8am. Harvey Penick Golf Campus, 5501 Ed Bluestein Blvd., 926-1100.*

BRIAN JONES CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT benefiting the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Capital Area. Activities include a round of golf at the University of Texas Golf Club with former UT and NFL linebacker Brian Jones with other celebrities TBA. Get involved now. *Mon., Aug. 28, 10am. University of Texas Golf Club, 2200 University Club Dr.* **www.besomebodytosomebody.org**.

Soccer WATCH

Barcelona, champions of both Spain and Europe, will be in **Houston** this Wednesday, Aug. 9, taking on Mexican favorites Club América, reigning CONCACAF champs. It's part of a doubleheader at Reliant Stadium, starting with a 7pm MLS West tilt between the Houston Dynamo and the L.A. Galaxy. And yes, **Ronaldinho** and the other Barca stars will be playing; this is one of their last tune-ups before their Aug. 27 La Liga opener. Tix at Ticketmaster.

It's less than a month since the World Cup finale, but already the next season's well under way on every front.

In **Europe**, play has begun in Scotland, England, and elsewhere; **Champions League** first two rounds are complete, with no major upsets thus far. **Italy** will be the last to kick off, delayed two weeks by the ongoing legal appeals in the refereeing/match-fixing scandal. UEFA ruled Wednesday that **AC Milan** can take part in the Champs League, despite their involvement in *lo scandalo*.

South America's **Copa Libertadores**, that continent's club championship, is down to the finals by the time you read this. The second leg of the semifinals was Wednesday night after press time, but if things went according to form, we'll have the second straight all-Brazilian final, with São Paulo and Internacional each holding an edge from the first leg.

This Saturday, Aug. 5, is the **MLS All-Star game**, as the stars of the American league take on English champions **Chelsea**; it's live at 5:30pm on ESPN. – *Nick Barbaro*

KIDS KICK-IT 3V3 SOCCER TOUR offers players of all ages and abilities a festival atmosphere filled with fun, dynamic, and fast-paced competition. Pool play kicks into action on Saturday with each team competing for first-, second-, and third-place prizes on Sunday. An estimated 250 teams, 1,250 participants, and 5,000 spectators will make their way to Round Rock for this competition. *Sat.-Sun., Aug. 5-6. Old Settler's Park, 2800 Palm Valley Rd.*

AUSTIN ROCK GYM LADIES NIGHT Free rock-climbing instruction at this weekly event. *Mondays, 7:30pm. Both locations. Free.* **www.austinrockgym.com**.

PILATES FITNESS TRAINING This is an equipment-based training program. See **www.eastsidebalance.com** for more. *East Side Balance, 906 E. Fifth, 698-1890.*

STARS OF TEXAS JUNIOR GOLF TOURNEY The 54-hole stroke play competition will feature 99 players, ages 12-18, including 13 Austin residents. *Tue.-Fri., Aug. 8-11, 7:30am. The UT Golf Club.* **www.ajga.org/TournInfo/2006/default.asp?TN=T64**.

CHRIS MIHM'S HOOPS ACADEMY This camp's goal is to provide personal and team instruction, inspiration, and fun in pursuit of developing young basketball players on and off the court. Campers will perform the same drills that Chris Mihm and his coaching staff did as young players. *Mon., Aug. 7, 8am. West Austin Youth Assoc., 699-2351.* **www.chrismihm31.com**.

SOFTBALL AUSTIN'S TEXAS SHOOTOUT CHARITY TOURNAMENT An open double-elimination tourney hosting B, C, and D division teams. Proceeds benefit AIDS Services of Austin, Project Transitions, and OutYouth. It's never too early to register. *Fri.-Sun., Sept. 1-3. Krieg Softball Complex, 517 S. Pleasant Valley. $350 per team (register by Aug. 18).* **www.softballaustin.org**.

VOLLEYBALL AT 'BOUT TIME The fall season starts in mid-August and ends in the beginning of November. The action takes place on Sundays from 2:30-8:30pm and Wednesdays 7-10pm. Register now. *'Bout Time, 9601 N. I-35, 832-5339.*

day TRIPS

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

The XIT Ranch was to Texas ranches what Dell Inc. is to computer manufacturers. In the 1880s, the Panhandle ranch was the largest fenced range in the world and, for a time, was the leader in breeding stock and agriculture innovations.

In 1879, the state was land-rich and cash-poor, but the need for a larger Capitol gave birth to the idea of trading real estate for a new building in Austin. When the state house burned down in 1881, the need for a new building became urgent.

The pink-granite building completed in 1888 that we see today at the end of Congress was traded for 3 million acres of uninhabited land in the northwest corner of the Texas Panhandle. The $3 million construction project was financed by the Chicago company organized as the Capitol Syndicate.

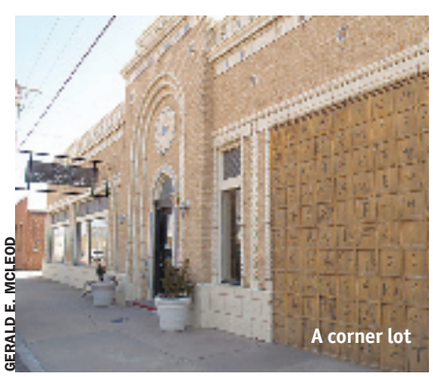
From the beginning, the business plan was to run cattle on the land until it could be divided and sold for a profit. The ranch extended nearly 220 miles long and 30 miles wide in a jigsaw-puzzle-piece shape along the New Mexican border from Oklahoma to Lubbock. Urban myth says the XIT brand meant "10 in Texas" because the ranch covered all or part of 10 counties. Several of the counties were not organized when the brand first appeared. More likely, the mark was easy to burn on an animal's hide and difficult to alter by rustlers.

In order to meet the expenses of building and maintaining such a large cattle operation, the Capitol Syndicate borrowed $5 million from Capitol Freehold Land and Investment Company of London. Early investors included the Earl of Aberdeen and members of the British Parliament.

The first cattle herd reached the Texas plains in 1885, and by the turn of the century, ranch hands had erected more than 325 windmills and 100 dams to provide water to the parched pastures. Divided into eight divisions, the ranch had more than 1,500 miles of fencing. At its peak, 150 cowboys worked for $25 to $30 a month, plus room and board.

In a land where the winters can be bitterly cold and the summers frightfully hot, ranch employees had few options for entertainment. Failure to abide by the rules of no gambling or alcohol consumption could mean immediate dismissal that was often enforced by a six-gun.

Even though the ranch often delivered more than 12,000 head of cattle a year to market, it rarely made a profit. Droughts, blizzards, rustlers, wolves, and market prices kept the ranch washed in red ink. By the 1890s, large sections were sold to other ranches. By 1905, a land rush of small farmers began gobbling up what was left of the undivided pastures to pay off the British investors. The last XIT-branded cattle were sold off in 1912. The last parcel of XIT land was sold in 1963.



GERALD E. MCLEOD

A corner lot

Besides watering the land with windmills and bringing settlers to the remote corner of the state, the XIT Ranch left us with a rich legacy. The town of Farwell was named for the original investors. Texline was once a cattle shipping point for the ranch. What is now the Rita Blanca National Grassland was once a part of the division of the ranch that produced beef cattle. And buildings that were part of the headquarters can still be seen in Channing.

Across the street from the county courthouse in Dalhart, the XIT Museum houses relics from the ranch, as well as life in Dallam and Hartley counties. The collection is an interesting assortment of ranching tools, wildlife specimens, and everyday household items.

Since 1925, Dalhart has hosted the XIT Rodeo and Reunion on the first continuous Thursday, Friday, and Saturday in August (this year, Aug. 3-5). It has been years since a cowboy who actually worked on the XIT attended the celebration, but the town still provides free watermelon on Thursday, a pork-chop supper on Friday, and the World's Largest Free Barbecue on Saturday, along with live music, rodeos, and family fun. For information, contact the Dalhart Chamber of Commerce at 806/244-5646 or **www.dalhart.org**.

789th in a series. **Day Trips, Vol. 2**, *a book of Day Trips 101-200, is available for $8.95, plus $3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: Day Trips, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.*

out of town

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

SEA TURTLE RELEASES have begun at Padre Island National Seashore outside of Corpus Christi. For information on the next chance to see the 4-inch-long hatchlings make their dash for the surf, call the hotline at *361/949-7163* or go see the Web site. **www.nps.gov/pais**.

BLUE HOLE IS OPEN These cool, cypress-tree-shaded waters are open for swimming daily until Labor Day. *Weekdays, 10am-6pm, Fri. & Sat., 10am-8pm. Blue Hole, Wimberley, 512/634-6179.*

TUTTO FELLIANA AT THE MODERN mixes an exhibition of rare movie posters from around the world for the films of Frederico Fellini with a complete retrospect of his movies. Posters: *Through Aug. 31.* Films: *Tue.-Sun., Aug. 18-Sept. 3. The Modern Art Museum, Fort Worth, 817/738-1938.* **www.themodern.org**.

THE HILL COUNTRY IS ALIVE WITH THE SOUND OF MUSIC when the local theatre group stages this Rodgers and Hammerstein play about a singing nun. *Through Aug. 13. Thu.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2:15pm; plus, Tue., Aug. 8, 7:30pm. Hill Country Community Theatre, 4003 W. FM 2147, Cottonwood Shores (outside of Marble Falls), 830/693-2474.* **www.hcct.org**.

SHAKESPEARE UNDER THE STARS presents *Taming of the Shrew* and *Midsummer Night's Dream* on consecutive nights in the outdoor theatre. *Mon.-Sat., Through Aug.12, 8:30pm (no Sunday performances). EmilyAnn Theatre, Wimberley, 512/847-6969.* **www.emilyann.org**.

POWER PATHOS is a new exhibit featuring the art of Daniel Johnston, Ron English, Gibby Haynes, Clark Fox, and Anthony Ausgang. *Through Sept. 24. Wed.-Sun., 11am-6pm. Station Museum of Contemporary Art, 1502 Alabama St., Houston, 713/529-6900.* **www.stationmuseum.com**.

INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL kicks off "August Is Jazz Month" with concerts featuring international, national, regional, and local bands; various workshops; and the mayor's jazz brunch. *Fri.-Sun., Aug. 4-6. Wortham Theater, Bayou Place, Houston. 713/839-7000.* **www.jazzeducation.org**.

THE MAGICAL HISTORY TOUR offers an inside look at the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps and the amazing structures they built. *Sat., Aug. 5 & 19, 10am. Lockhart State Park, Lockhart. 512/398-3479.*

COWBOYS ON MAIN Cowboy troubadours on horseback, strolling musicians, storytellers, and more. *Aug. 5-26. Saturdays, 1-4pm. Bandera.* **www.frontiertimesmuseum.com**.

CRAWLING WILD CAVE EXPLORATION gives visitors a chance to take a self-guided tour of the caves. Not for the claustrophobic. Groups are limited to a minimum of three and a maximum of 10. Reservations recommended. *Sat., Aug. 5. Colorado Bend State Park, Bend. 325/628-3240. $30.*

COUNTRY MUSIC MONDAY showcases local talent playing a variety of country music. *Mon., Aug. 7. Sons of Hermann Hall, Giddings. 979/366-9341.*

BACK TO SCHOOL GOLF TOURNAMENT This tournament held on National Friendship Day is a two-person best-ball tournament, teams may be boy/boy, girl/girl, or boy/girl, youth do not need to be of the same age. *Sun., Aug. 6, 2pm. Harvey Penick Golf Campus, 5501 Ed Bluestein, 926-1100. $10.*

YOGA FOR WEIGHT AND STRESS MANAGEMENT Experience the effectiveness of Yoga in reducting weight and stress in a natural manner. *George Washington Carver Museum and Culture Center, 1165 Angelina, 974-4926. $70/10 classes, $10/drop-in. First class is free.* **cityofaustin.org/carver**.

RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

AUSTIN CYCLING ASSOCIATION Check their Web site for fun biking adventures. **www.austincycling.org/rides.html**.

WILD BASIN WILDERNESS has a plethora of available walks, hikes, and more. **www.wildbasin.org**.

REI LECTURES & CLINICS Ride Like a Girl The Austin Ridge Riders and Race Like a Girl mountain bike team host a summer program of weekly women's mountain bike rides, plus weekend rides at local trails/parks. This is an opportunity to ride with other women, learn new trails and skills, build abilities, and much more. *Mondays, 6pm. For more info and directions, see* **www.austinridgeriders.com**.

Ongoing Events

SUMMER BOAT SHOW The Palmer Events Center's overflowing with boats: pontoon boats, wakeboard boats, fishing boats, ski boats, and possibly even toy boats, toy boats, toy boyts. A shoal of local vendors will present their aquavehicular wares amid boating demonstrations and fishing tips and more. *Aug. 4-6. Fri., noon-9pm; Sat., 10am-9pm; Sun., 10am-5pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 404-4020. $7 (free, ages 10 and younger, ages 65 and older).* **www.austinboatshow.com**.

REGISTRATION FOR STUDENTS IN NEW ORLEANS PUBLIC SCHOOLS Hurricane evacuees planning to register children for the upcoming school year (which begins Thu., Sept. 7) in New Orleans' Recovery School District may do so online or by phone until all spaces are full; however, you must visit a New Orleans registration center in person by 5pm, Aug. 12, to provide signatures and required documentation. *877/453-2721.* **www.nolapublicschools.net**.

FOR THE CHILDREN is raising funds for purchasing **back-to-school supplies** for Austin-area prekinderten through fifth-grade students who can't afford them. You can drop off supplies (glue, scissors, pocket folders, pencils, crayons, spiral notebooks, filler paper) at any HEB store until *Mon., Aug. 14*; however, monetary donations go further, since For the Children can buy in bulk at prices far below retail. As little as $40 can provide the basics for 10 students. To donate money, visit the Web site or mail a check to: *For the Children, PO Box 29346, Austin 78755. 505-5712.* **www.schoolsuppliesforthechildren.org**.

CENTER FOR CHILD PROTECTION is collecting **backpacks and school supplies** for children (prekindergarten through 12th grade) who've been affected by domestic abuse. They'll accept donations online through *Wed., Aug. 9*, and and in person through *Mon., Aug. 7*, at the following locations: *Center for Child Protection, 1110 E. 32nd (weekdays, 8am-5pm); McCormick & Schmick's, 401 Congress. 472-1164.* **www.centerforchildprotection.org**.

TAX-FREE WEEKEND This holiday might find some of you deliberately avoiding all places of commerce, but for braver souls – especially you back-to-school shoppers – it can be a big financial help. Look online for the official list of qualifying tax-free items. *Fri.-Sun., Aug. 4-6.* Also, **Highland Mall** will be rising to the occasion with extended hours: *Fri. & Sat., 9am-10pm; Sun., 11am-8pm. 800/252-5555.* **www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/taxpubs/tx98_490/tx98_490.html**.

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Radio :30

Hyde Park Theatre, through Aug. 5
Running Time: 55 min

Anyone who slides behind a microphone to be a radio announcer has to have an ability to speak that can satisfy throngs of listeners who have itchy fingers and the will to turn off his voice at the push of a dial. It's a tough job. Who would want to be that anonymous voice in the box, consciously icy and forcing a rapid string of products and prices down everyone's throats?

Ron would. He can be quirky and captivating, and his claim to fame is his incredible ability to talk to you as if he were your friend. In a small recording studio created by eggshell foam squares pasted to the walls of Hyde Park Theatre's stage, Ron talks to us as he would to a friend while he's recording a spot for a burger joint. He has mastered that mellifluous singsong delivery and the tricks that hypnotize the average listener during a 30-second promo, and he is downright smug about it. "I am the talent," he says.

But the real talent is Mical Trejo who plays Ron and who happens to know what it is to slip on a headset since he works as a drive-time deejay for Jammin' 105.9. He already has a knack for all the knob-twiddling tricks, like how not to breathe heavily into the mic and the technique for smiling while talking. What good is a smile when no one can see you? It just makes you "sound" happier, Ron explains with welcoming enthusiasm. "If you're talking to your mom, and you want to make her think everything is going OK, just smile."

Suddenly, he's the product in his own hard sell to us, using his charm to describe how he slept with his best friend's wife. We see him become a victim of desire and indulgence, coveting the merchandise that he can't have. Trejo lays on a thick schmooze that makes you feel sorry for the bastard when he burns out and loses his self-promotional drive. You hate to love him for what he is. The geniality that resonates in his voice draws listeners in as he defends himself, saying that he'd rather be really good at something bad than really bad at something good.

Trejo and his production company, Universal Cynic Productions, were smart to ask Hyde Park Theatre Artistic Director Ken Webster to direct. Webster is the DJ master of emotional collapse – onstage, that is – and can steer even a professional radio announcer into a drained and silent rage. Pay attention to the man behind the microphone. Robert S. Fisher plays Mike, the sound engineer we don't see, who keeps eerily cool off-stage while giving supervisory suggestions: "You're a one-take wonder, but we were just wondering if you could be more quirky."

Advertising works. Chris Earle's psychological drama shows how consumers will base their decisions more on emotions than on logic. You'll walk around thinking about Ron's empty eyes and crooning the jingle from his promo that's repeated over and over and over: "Do you ever have one of those days? Do you ever wonder why?"

– *Patti Hadad*

Theatre

OPENING

THE GOOD DOCTOR Neil Simon conjures an affectionate skewering of Anton Chekhov's works in this multipartite comedy, as presented in that grand venue just to the north of town. *Aug. 3-13. Thu.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Palace Theatre, 810 S. Austin Rd., Georgetown, 512/869-7469. $14 ($12, seniors; $7, students).*

RED CANS is hawked as "a new species of performance," and we wouldn't begin to doubt that. Recent birthday-suited *Chronicle* cover subjects Josh Meyer and Matt Hislope (aka Rubber Repertory) have teamed up with the Rude Mechs to present this spectacle of incarnadine kinetics and sculptural weirdness. What *are* the red cans? What does their choreographed, sometimes violent interaction *mean*? How the hell do people squeeze into and perform inside such spatial restraints? Are the Rubber Reppers so enamored with Wallace Shawn because much of what they purvey is, until they've thought of it, *inconceivable*? We'll be front and center, waiting to find out; you should be, too. *Aug. 3-19. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 476-7833. $10-25 (pay what you can, Thursdays).* **www.rubberrep.org**.

CAMPCAMP is Austin's monthly queer performance night and something of an open mic, although this edition will showcase a new musical created, built, and rehearsed in one locked room in 60 hours. *Thu., Aug. 3, 8pm. Kai Excess Backyard, 2823 Manor Rd. Free (bring some food and drinks for the pot luck).*

THE DEAD PRESIDENTS CLUB Larry L. King's classic comedy of presidential proportions and machinations returns to Austin Playhouse under the direction of Don Toner and starring David Stahl as Richard Milhouse Nixon. *Aug. 4-27. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. $22-25 (half price for students).* **www.austinplayhouse.com**.

PSYCHO BEACH PARTY Prairie Oyster Productions and Vortex Repertory present this riotous Charles Busch send-up of Sixties teen surfer films. Brash, bold, and full of genderbending hilarity as multiple-personalitied Chicklet runs afoul of a Hollywood starlet among the sandy-haired boys of summer. Directed by Nick Fagan. Tip: *Bring a beach blanket or beach chair to sit on*. Cowabunga! *Aug. 4-13. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. $10-30.* **www.vortexrep.org**.

You know there's a rumble in the works, as the Sharks (pictured) prepare to spill some hot Jet blood in Summerstock's *West Side Story* at St. Ed's.



MANCHILD IN THE WASTELAND Barton Guy Bryan, fresh from a run in NYC's off-Broadway scene, takes over the Vortex to present the story of his turbulent experience as a Peace Corps volunteer struggling to find a home in a West African village. One night only: *Wed., Aug. 9, 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. $10-30.* **www.vortexrep.org**.

THE SWEETEST SWING IN BASEBALL is Rebecca Gilman's baseball-spiced comedy, in which a depressed artist attempts to con an insurance company by pretending to believe that she's actually former substance-abusing, home-run-hitting New York Mets slugger Darryl Strawberry. The ensuing hilarity is directed by Roger Topham for a troupe called Unlimited Automotive, and stars Liz Fisher as the crafty Dana. *Aug. 10-26. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY, 419-7878. $17 ($14, students, seniors, ACoT; $5, Thursdays).* **spacestationrog@hotmail.com**.

CLOSING

THE PLAY ABOUT THE BABY It's Edward Albee's classic of parental fears absurdified, in which one couple may or may not have *stolen* another couple's precious kinder (which may or may not actually exist), is directed by Kate Meehan for Coda Theatre Project. *Through Aug. 5. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. play! theatre, 1204 Cedar, 468-5546. $10 ($8, students, seniors); pay by the dice, Thursdays.* **www.codatheater.org**.

ZILKER PARK OUTDOOR SUMMER MUSICAL: SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS Yeehaw, we imagine, as this rootin', tootin', rip-snortin' spectacle of love and the lengths some folks will go for it are presented as the 48th annual Z.PO.S.M. for your evening-pic-nic-on-the-grass pleasure. Directed by Ginger Morris and Robin Lewis. *Through Aug. 5. Thu.-Sun., 8:30pm. Zilker Park Hillside Theater, 2206 William Barton Dr., 479-9491. Free (donations accepted).* **www.zilker.org**.

SUMMERSTOCK 2006 features students from local high schools and colleges as performers in a trio of theatrical treats: Bernstein's *West Side Story* and, a treat especially for the kiddies, *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fair(ly) Stoopid Tales*. *Through Aug. 6. Mary Moody Northen Theatre at St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress, 448-8484. $6-12.*

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The Austin Chronicle is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Aug. 18 issue is Monday, Aug. 7**. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail:

Wayne Alan Brenner, theatre, comedy. **brenner@austinchronicle.com**.

Robi Polgar, performance art, dance, classical. **dance-classical@austinchronicle.com**.

Ric Williams, litera. **litera@austinchronicle.com**.

Benné Rockett, visual arts. **art@austinchronicle.com**.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor. **brenner@austinchronicle.com**.

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The Play About the Baby

play! Theatre, through Aug. 5

Running Time: 1 hr, 50 min

In a way, Edward Albee has always been about dreams. One of his earliest plays was titled *The American Dream*, and many of his plays, if not actually about the hopes, expectations, aspirations, or illusions of his characters, appear to be set in dreamlike worlds in which human lizards come out of the ocean or three women assume the personality of one.

Albee's *The Play About the Baby*, now being produced by the Coda Theater Project, falls into both categories. In it we watch a Boy and a Girl, played by Scott Geier and Maggie Wilhite, have a baby, although the Girl doesn't appear to be pregnant before she gives birth. We hear the baby but never see it, although we do see a large bundle in which the baby ostensibly is wrapped. The Boy and the Girl seem to be very happy together, their life with each other and with the baby seeming to be everything they have ever wanted.

Enter the Man and the Woman, played by Zac Crofford and Lisa Scheps. We are introduced first to the Man: a youngish, heavily bearded one, dressed somewhat formally in suspenders, although wearing nothing on his feet. (No one wears anything on his or her feet in this particular world.) The Man is the voice of authority and questions everyone's perceptions about reality, including his own. The Man introduces the Woman, a flamboyant, theatrical one who claims to be well-traveled. The Boy and the Girl and the Man and the Woman appear to coexist in the same space and occasionally appear actually to know one another, though, for a time, they mostly just glimpse the others as they execute their various entrances and exits. Eventually they all meet, and what the Boy and the Girl – and we – discover is that the likable Man and the enchanting Woman have come for a dread and dire purpose. They have come to – well, I don't want to give that one away.

Unfortunately, in my description, I don't think I'm doing either the play or the production justice. While it probably goes without saying, Albee is a brilliant writer, providing entertaining dialogue filled with striking imagery and wit and characters that are fully fleshed human beings. And while director Kate Meehan doesn't get performances of great depth from her actors, each does hit a level that is quite watchable, with Geier all horniness and sexual energy, Wilhite all wide-eyed innocence, Crofford the voice of ultimate control, and Scheps – giving the most successful performance – charming eccentricity itself. Most importantly and significantly, the actors deliver the play cleanly and clearly. Some questionable, nontraditional casting and what are mostly unnecessary, ill-advised sound choices aside, there's a lot to be said for a production in which you not only can hear every word but almost never lose the thread of what's being communicated.

And what, precisely, is being communicated? Good question, that. Something like this: that in the beginning, all is innocence, love, and dreams; that eventually the truth of the world rears its ugly, cultural head; and that, in the end, you will be left to discover that you knew nothing.

Nothing at all.

– *Barry Pineo*

RADIO :30 is playwright Chris Earle's pitch-perfect version of what happens when a radio voice talent loses it big time, as they say, during the attempted recording(s) of a commercial. Sixty minutes of funny tension and uneasy *schadenfreude*, expertly rendered by solo actor Mical Trejo under the direction of HPT's Ken Webster. *Through Aug. 5. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY. $13-15.* **www.hydeparktheatre.com**.

ONGOING

CROWNS It's so popular that they had to bring it back for an encore run: Regina Taylor's uplifting musical, based on the book *Crowns: Portraits of Black Women in Church Hats*, about "a young hip-hop girl who learns the secrets of 'hattitude' from a strong circle of women who wear glorious crowns to celebrate the losses and victories in the life of an African-American woman." Directed by Dave Steakley. *Aug. 10-Sept. 17. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sun., 2:30 & 7pm. 476-0541 x1. $34-40 ($15 student rush tickets available one hour before each curtain time).* **www.zachscott.com**.

SNEAKYPETE'S DEVIOUS DEALINGS is an old-timey, popcorn-throwing melodrama by Billy St. John, presented by the Way Off Broadway Community Players out in Leander for your cheering and hissing pleasure. Directed by Cassie Trujillo. *Through Aug. 19. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Crystal Falls Playhouse, 10960 E. Crystal Falls Pkwy., Leander. 512/336-8966. $10-12.* **www.wobcp.org**.

AMERICAN FIESTA Steve Tomlinson, Austin's best monologist, and that's such the Understatement of the Decade, returns to the stage with his acclaimed show that links Depression-era Fiestaware, eBay, national political divisions, and, ultimately, the human heart in conflict with itself. We can't recommend this show highly enough: Tomlinson is local, but the man's a world treasure. *Through Aug. 13. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. UT's McCullough Theatre, 510 E. 23rd. 866/4-GETTIX. $12-30.* **www.austintheatre.org**.

SHAKESPEARE AT WINEDALE The legendary Winedale/UT program offers a trio of the Bard's works in repertory out there in the Hill Country of Round Top. **As You like It**: *Sat., Aug. 5, 2pm; Sun., Aug. 6, 7:30pm; Thu., Aug. 10, 7:30pm; Sat., Aug 12, 7:30pm*. **Two Gentlemen of Verona**: *Fri., Aug. 4, 7:30pm; Sun., Aug. 6, 2pm; Sat., Aug. 12, 2pm; Sun., Aug. 13, 7:30pm*. **King Lear**: *Thu., Aug. 3, 7:30pm; Sat., Aug. 5, 7:30pm; Fri., Aug. 11, 7:30pm; Sun., Aug. 13, 2pm. Winedale Historical Center, Round Top, 512/471-4726.* **www.shakespeare-winedale.org**.

I AM MY OWN WIFE In a reunited Berlin, Charlotte – a survivor of Nazism and Communist dictatorship, a soft-spoken but tenaciously gender-bending male – runs a museum of memorabilia and portrays more than 40 characters in the performance of a lifetime. Written by Doug Wright, directed by Dave Steakley, starring Glenn Peters. *Through Aug. 27. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. $28-37.* **www.zachscott.com**.

DINNER THEATRE

ANTIQUES ROAD KILL Gary Payne's Capital City Mystery Players spoof the popular antiques-appraising TV series with an interactive murder mystery in a venue featuring Italian cuisine that provides an opportunity to twirl your vermicelli (or divide your veal parmesan or what-have-you) while trying to sleuth out the culprit. *Sat., Aug. 5, 7pm. Spaghetti Warehouse, 117 W. Fourth, 404-9123. $29.95.* **www.capcitymystery.com**.

AUDITIONS

BARS, BEDROOMS, BUKOWKSI The new troupe called Performance Venue will stage this show to "bring Charles Bukowski's writings to life." Male and female actors are needed; alcoholism, we assume, is optional. *Sun.-Tue., Aug. 6-8, 7pm. 211 E. Alpine #300 (across from Ruta Maya). 805/451-0482.* **performancevenue@gmail.com**.

CON MIS MANOS Gobotrick Theatre Company is holding auditions for this show scripted by Misael Martinez. Seeking: Hispanic males (ages 14-40), Hispanic females (ages 11-40), caucasian males (30s). Prepare a one-minute contemporary monologue, bring résumé and headshot. *Tue.-Wed., Aug 15-16, 6:30-9:30pm. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 397-1468.* **www.gobotrick.org**.

MYSTERY DINNER THEATRE? Why, yes, Gary Payne is looking for more performers for his Capital City Mystery Players. You have experience, you can do some improv, you like to be compensated for your craft? Call the man for an appt. *Mon., Aug. 14. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 441-4720.* **www.ci.austin.tx.us/dougherty**.

Comedy

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research Blvd. #100, 467-2333. **www.capcitycomedy.com**.

Open Mic Comedy Sit back and relax with a cold one while you watch seasoned pros and up-and-comers knocking themselves out humorwise for your benefit (and to benefit the Austin Children's Shelter). *Sundays, 8pm. $2 (free, college students).*

C. Willi Myles takes the Cap City stage to places only a tall, bald, goateed African-American comic named C. Willi Myles can. And Mike MacRae opens. *Aug. 8-12. Tue.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.*

Frank Caliendo is a regular on Fox's *MadTV*, so you can bet your plush Alfred E. Neuman doll (*Gundt, 1974*) that he'll crack you up faster than you can say "John Madden's daddy gladdens saddened radicals' sabbatical." Know what I'm sayin'? *Aug. 3-5. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm. $20-25.*

ESTHER'S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. **www.esthersfollies.com**.

Esther's Follies The usual crew of cut-ups is on hiatus this week, giving the equally riotous **Latino Comedy Project** locos a chance to make that Jim Beam come out your nose. (See our "But Wait – There's More" section.) *Reservations highly recommended. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10pm. $20 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, students, military). Additional $5 for special reserved seats.*

THE HIDEOUT THEATER 617 Congress, 443-3688. **www.heroescomedy.com**.

AUSTIN IMPROV: EVERYTHING FROM NOTHING The Hideout's the epicenter of all the best improv in Austin, and it's shifting into overdrive for 2006, presenting more shows, more styles, more wicked tasty off-the-cuff japery than you can find anywhere in Texas (or, for that matter, the Greater Southwest and Southeast Regions). Keep your eyes peeled to this section of the listings for what's, as they say, *happening* at Improv HQ. For instance:

SATURDAY: WHIRLED NEWS TONIGHT Because the Hideout doesn't rest on its laurels, no matter how comfortable those laurels may be, here's a new form of political and social satire, ripped (as they say) from the day's headlines and presented by the finest improv comedians in Austin. *Saturdays, 10:30pm. 461-5897. $12 ($10, seniors, students).*

THURSDAY: ColdTowne's Chris Trew and **Dave Buckman** of the **Frank Mills** host an Ed Sullivan-style show of stand-up, improv, and sketch comedy. *8pm. $5.*

FRIDAY: Improv Threefer features **1 A.M.**, **Improv for Evil**, and **Massive**. *8pm. $7-10.* the **Double Barrel** features **Coldtowne Heroes** and the **Musical Improv Class Graduation Show**. *10pm. $7-10.* And late night's **Cage Match** troupes continue to battle for the final and highly coveted Out of Bounds Festival slot! *Single elimination!* And, OMG, it's **Fart Clown Glasses** vs. **Polite Society Presents**! *11:30pm. $7-10.*

SATURDAY: Cops and Lawyers is a wholly improvised *Law and Order* show, like performative fan fiction gone mad. You know your rights, citizen? *8pm. $7-10.* **Maestro** is the most audience-participatory show in the improv lineup. Performers play games and scenes scored by the audience, periodically eliminating low-scoring players until one performer emerges victorious and is crowned the Maestro. *10pm. $7-10.* The **Blank Show** features **Blue Maestro**, a nearly X-rated version of the popular improv show, as directed by nasty Dav Wallace. *11:30pm. $7-10.*

VELVEETA ROOM 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116. **www.thevelveetaroom.com**.

John O'Connell is more than just Tater Salad's gag writer, boy howdy: He's a fuckin' *professional* performer in his own right, see, and he's bringing a life-sized proof of that to the stage this weekend, as abetted by funnymen **Doug Connolly** and **Howard Beecher**. *Fri.-Sat., Aug. 4-5, 9:30 & 11:30pm. $5.*

Spite Club returns! Who's the snarkiest of them all? You're gonna find out tonight, when stand-up reaches the, um, *biling* point as John Rabon and Matt Bearden host three rounds of comedian-vs.-comedian battle: trivia, insults, and freestyle. This week it's **Sean Carey** against **Todd Merriman**. *Thu., Aug. 3, 9pm. $5.*

Open Mic Night, God Help Us All Think you have what it takes to knock 'em dead, comedy-wise, in three minutes? Some of your fellow citizens think so, and they (and you?) will be up there on the Cheese Palace boards, giving it their best shot. This week's host: **Howard Beecher**. *Thursdays, 10pm. $5.*

BUT WAIT – THERE'S MORE!

LATINO COMEDY PROJECT Right, we've already seen what these guys can do; we don't have to hawk them blindly. This troupe, led by *jefe grande* Adrian Villegas, is the surest bet for a night full of actually *funny* and sometimes damned insightful comedy, whether you're straight from *el barrio* or you're a near-clueless *gringo* or (especially) if you're a little bit of both. No joke: See them here (taking over the Pool while the regular Esther's gang goes on vacation) before HBO snaps their talented asses up and they start charging the big bucks, *ese*. *Aug. 3-5. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10pm. $20 (regular Esther's discounts available).*

THE COLDTOWNE HEROES bring their award-winning, national-touring, wild improv style to the hallowed Cheese Palace stage for a night of bigtime yucks and extemporaneous derring-do. Because, you know, the Hideout alone can't contain these guys. *Sat., Aug. 5, 8pm. The Velveeta Room, 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116. $5.* **www.coldtowne.com**.

Dance

BLUE LAPIS LIGHT: CLIMBING AUDITION This amazing site-specific dance company seeks climbing experts to participate in its upcoming revival of the wildly successful *Requiem* which will run (or perhaps *fly* is the better word) in October at the Intel Building. *Sat., Aug. 5, 5-6:30pm. Intel Building, 400 San Antonio. 736-9700.* **www.bluelapislight.org**.

DANCE LISTINGS ALERT! If you have sent an e-mailed announcement to me in the past two weeks about events in the coming month, please resend it. My old computer died and took all the listings with it! Thanks, RP. **dance-classical@austinchronicle.com**.

CUENTOS: AZTLAN SHORT STORIES Aztlan Dance present these short narrative dance works that reinforce and recast stories of life and love in the barrio and the dynamic heritage within, told through thought-provoking, vibrant, and colorful Latino cultural imagery. *Through Aug. 6. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Santa Cruz Center for Culture, 1805 E. Seventh, 460-9256. $13 ($10, seniors, students, children).* **www.aztlandance.com**.

1,001 NIGHTS

ARARAT Almost every night of the week, beautiful belly dancing accompanies your Mideast feast. Reservations encouraged. *Nightly, times vary. Ararat, 111 E. North Loop. 419-1692.*

CLEOPATRA Belly dancing with true Egyptian flavor. *Fri.-Sat., 8pm-2am. Cleopatra, 2620 S. I-35. 947-9462.*

MIDDLE EASTERN DANCE: TROUPE CHOREOGRAPHY SHOWCASE AND COMPETITION A weekend of workshops includes seminars by renowned choreographer Mahmoud Reda, and a competition/showcase offers troupes an opportunity to show off their creativity to a panel of expert judges, including Mr. Reda. Workshops: *Sat.-Sun., Aug. 5-6, times vary*. Competition/showcase: *Sat., Aug. 5, 8pm. Austin Yoga School, 1122 S. Lamar. 927-2580. $25 (for competition/showcase; $20, in advance; workshop prices vary).* **www.zhelene.com**.

DESERT PASSION MIDDLE EASTERN DANCE THEATER This month's alcohol- and smoke-free night of exotic dance comes with live music from Oliver Rajamani's trio, supporting the dancers Drakon, Samira, Seichimat, Sonje, and Silke. Middle Eastern refreshments served at intermission. *Fri., Aug. 4, 8pm. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 750-7037. $10; free, kids.* **www.desertpassion.com**.

"Summer Group Show"

Lora Reynolds Gallery, through Aug. 19

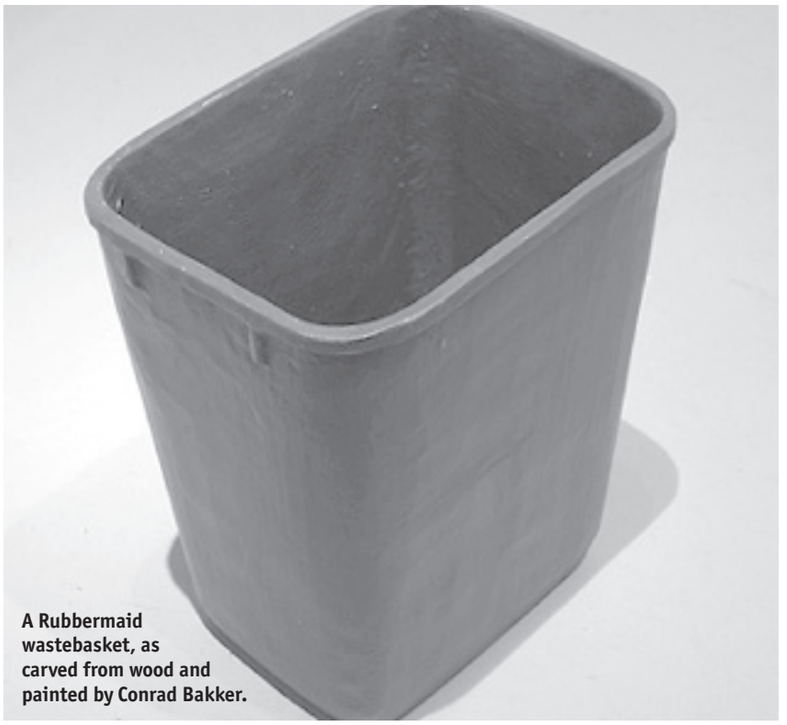
Over the course of a lifetime, how many times do we say things like "I'm not normally like this" or "That's not me"? Think of all those ecstatic or horrible times during some vacation, some experience, or some period of living that we quickly label "not my real life." Surely a great part of our living is done during those "other" times that, we would like to think, don't really count. Looking at a broader cultural phenomenon, Michel Foucault called these imagined breaks in reality dystopias. He defined them as gaps in the norm, periods in which the everyday is broken into by something less common and less routine that somehow serves to illustrate the darker currents of a culture or practice.

Is that what summer group shows are up to? Is summer the time when galleries break out the plastic forks instead of the silver and just explain to the guests, "We don't usually eat like this"? Or are summer group shows more like talent shows: A time when every kid in school has the opportunity to strut his or her stuff in the spotlight?

In Lora Reynolds' 2006 "Summer Group Show," both emerging and established artists were invited to contribute work that seems to embody both possible summer-show descriptions. There is an aura of "leftovers" in the works hung, which, had each one been displayed in a solo show with other works by the same artist, would have disappeared into the familiarity of the single-artist format. Still, this is no blight on this gallery, which knows how to build cohesion. Summer shows are notorious for this sort of cleaning-out-the-cupboards feeling that often has more to do with spring cleaning than summer sizzle – a situation which, in all honesty, may be working dystopically to reveal not only what is on a gallery's backroom shelves but also the pressure galleries are under to produce exhibits of continuity – shows in which viewers erroneously feel they are "getting to know" an artist or theme because of the vast numbers of related works on display at one time.

After pulling off a series of strong shows since its opening last year, Lora Reynolds has built a reputation for intelligent work and thoughtful curatorial moves. While this summer's show is a departure, perhaps this gap in the norm for the gallery might act as a gadfly for the summer-gallery scene at large, prompting reflection and discussion. It might make us all more aware of our own dystopic moments, my own being this art review that doesn't say a word about art. And though you'll have to excuse me, as I'm not usually like this … I guess we all have those moments, don't we?

– *Nikki Moore*



A Rubbermaid wastebasket, as carved from wood and painted by Conrad Bakker.

TWO LEFT FEET

ESTUDIO FLAMENCO Get fired up with flamenco dance classes for beginners and intermediates. Handy central location to boot. *Days/times vary. 2801 W. 45th. 453-0190. $10 per class (private lessons available).* **www.estudioflamenco.com**.

LUCILA DANCE PRODUCTIONS: CLASSES FORMING Classes are forming now in belly dancing (all levels), flamenco, salsa/merengue, creative movement for kids 5 to 10 years old, and T'ai-Chi. *Lucila Dance Studio, 1700 S. Lamar. 416-8800.* **www.luciladance.com**.

DANCE INTERNATIONAL Open to all, these ballroom and Latin sessions are a great way to practice or learn new steps. Each night features a variety of dances; each month sees the start of a new, progressive course. No partner necessary. *Sundays, 6-8pm. Dancers Workshop, 183 & Balcones Woods. Weeknights, times vary. Hills Fitness Center, 4615 Bee Caves Rd. 32-DANCE. Fees vary.* **www.dancein.org**.

FIRST FRIDAY CONTRA DANCING Contra dancing'll put you in the swing of things at this monthly knees-up. *Fri., Aug. 4.* Lessons: *7:30pm*. Dance: *8-11pm. Carpenter's Hall, 400 Josephine. 970-4919. $8 (discount for AFTM members and first-timers).*

PUERTO RICAN FOLKLORIC DANCE & CULTURAL CENTER There are lots of goings on as PRFD welcomes the public to its new home! **Open House Bambazo** Bring your lawn chairs, dominoes, and (nonalcoholic) coolers. Play Briscas and enjoy this celebration, featuring a "Bombazo" (Bomba dance), a Puerto Rican tradition that invites the community to come and dance together to the beat of the drum. *Sun., Aug. 6, 2-5pm. 701 Tillery. Free*. **Classes** Now that PRFD has its own cultural center, it's offering an even better year of authentic dance and music classes for youth, adults, newcomers, and old hands. *Phone or see their Web site for details*. **Auditions** Dance apprentices and musicians can audition for this exciting troupe. The company is especially interested in men who dance, as well as singers and percussionists. Also: accoustic guitars, other strings, winds/horns. Call for appt. *Aug. 14-Sept. 30. 251-8122.* **www.prfdance.org**.

AUSTIN BALLROOM DANCERS Latin, swing, and other dance music in a nonsmoking, alcohol-free venue. No partner required, all ages welcome. *Saturdays, 8pm. Austin Recreation Center, 1301 Shoal Creek. $6 ($4, members, students)*. **ABD classes** Five-week sessions, beginners to advanced dancers. *Tuesday & Thursday nights. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st. Prices vary*. **www.austinballroomdancers.org**.

DANCE INTERNATIONAL: BEAUTIFUL SUMMER ADULT DANCE CAMP Wendy Johnson – ballroom and Latin dance champion, judge, and coach – leads this year's camp, which features a variety of classes in rumba and tango. *Sat.-Sun., Aug. 12-13. Times vary. 32-DANCE. $35-160.* **www.dance-international.net/news/adult_dance_camp.cfm**.

CONTACT IMPROVISATION DANCE JAMS Participants move in and out of contact with one or more people through a common center of gravity. All are welcome. *Tuesdays, 8-10pm; Sundays, 4:30-6pm. Austin Yoga School, 1122-C S. Lamar. $5.*

AUSTIN SCANDINAVIAN DANCING Traditional Swedish and Norwegian dances. Beginners welcome, no partners needed. New classes start every month. *Thursdays, 7:30-9:30pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 454-0598 or 453-9633. $3.*

AUSTIN BARN DANCERS: CONTRA DANCE You don't need a partner, and every dance will be taught before you stride out on your own. With live music. *Wednesdays, 7:30pm. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 453-4225. $3.* **www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/hancock.htm**.

AUSTIN INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS Start out a fun evening learning a variety of couples and line dances from around the world before giving it a whirl during the open dance session. Beginners and experienced dancers welcome. No partner required. *Saturdays. Lessons: 7:30pm*. Dance: *8:15-11pm. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 481-9362. $5.* **www.yastreb.com/tifd/aifd.html**.

AUSTIN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS Come alone or with a partner; beginners always welcome (kilts optional). *Thursdays, 7-9pm. Quicksilver Dance Studio, 8711 Burnet. First session free.* **www.austinscd.org**.

AUSTIN SWING SYNDICATE A couple hundred swingers hit the dance floor once a week for DJ-spun sounds of past blasts. A beginners' lesson starts the evening. *Thursdays, 8pm-12mid. Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 476-5845. $4 ($2, members).* **www.austinswingsyndicate.org**.

DANCE INTERNATIONAL: YOUTH DANCE CAMP Middle and high school students are invited to this weeklong session, where they'll receive focused training on basic ballroom and Latin styles, including morning warm-ups and a choreographed routine to be performed at the summer showcase on Aug. 13. See their Web site for registration. *Aug. 7-11, 9am-3pm. Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 32-DANCE.* **www.dancein.org**.



Aztlan Dance presents *Cuentos*, short narrative dance works of life and love in the barrio.



Classical Music

OPENING

UT CHORAL ARTS SOCIETY: AUDITIONS The UT Choral Arts Society, under the direction of Dr. James Morrow, holds auditions for its '06-'07 season, which includes the Rachmaninoff *Vespers* and Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem*, as well as a concert of English cathedral music by Howells, Britten, Vaughan Williams, and others. Phone or e-mail for details or appt. *Auditions ongoing through August. 471-0806.* **choirs@mail.music.utexas.edu**.

AUSTIN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: CONCERTS IN THE PARK SUMMER SERIES Kids frolic, couples lounge on blankets, old friends semicircle their folding chairs, passersby stop and listen. So it is with the fourth summer season of ensemble performances by members of the symphony. This week's featured ensemble: **Woodwind/Brass**. *Through Aug. 20. Sundays, 7:30pm. Wooldridge Square Park, Guadalupe between Ninth & 10th, 476-6064. Free.* **www.austinsymphony.org**.

BASSES, BEETHOVEN, AND BOOKS "brings brainy brawn to Beowulf, Browning, and Brontë," the press release alliteratively informs us, as double-bass virtuoso P. Kellach Waddle premieres his newest works, inspired by literary classics and rendered in soul-stirring style. And? This night of gorgeous music benefits the Austin Public Library. *Tue., Aug. 8, 7:30pm. Hyde Park United Methodist Church, 4001 Speedway, 453-4206. $18 ($15, in advance).* **www.austinlibrary.org**.

Visual Arts

EVENTS

THROUGH A SCANNER LOVELY is an exhibition, fueled by live music (by the Pickpockets, whose rendering of "St. James' Infirmary" reportedly *slays*) and free beer and wine, showcasing the natural or manufactured found-object prints by the *Chronicle*'s longtime Litera man, Ric Williams. The words made flesh, if you will. *Fri., Aug. 4, 9-11pm. Swerve Coffee Lounge, 2310 S. Lamar, 444-1000. Free.*

THE B SCENE Held on the first Friday of every month, the B Scene is the perfect opportunity to check out the Blanton and mingle with friends. Live music, gallery tours, art-making activities, light snacks, and a cash bar featuring "Blantinis." *MLK & Congress, 471-7324. $10 ($5, members).* **www.blantonmuseum.org**.

THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL EPHEMERATA The current "Machines" show is closing in this quirky and delightful venue, so curators Jen Hirt and Scott Webel are throwing a party to help it on its way. *Sat., Aug. 5, 7-10pm. 1808 Singleton, 320-0566.* **www.mnae.org**.

OPENING

MEXIC-ARTE MUSEUM: ANNUAL YOUNG LATINO ARTISTS Youth goes wild in this annual exhibit that challenges societal stereotypes of a new generation. Reception: *Thu., Aug. 3, 6-9pm*. Exhibition: *Aug. 3-Oct. 1. 419 Congress, 480-9373.* **www.mexic-artemuseum.org**.

DOUGHERTY ARTS CENTER: WOMEN IN THE STUDIO @ IDEA features contemporary paintings, sculptures, installations, and photographs by Jacqueline May, Benné Rockett, Elizabeth Underwood, and Tina Weitz, the fierce foursome working out of @IDEA studios. Reception: *Thu., Aug. 3, 6-8pm*. Exhibition: *Through Aug. 29. 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 397-1468.* **www.ci.austin.tx.us/dougherty**.

ART ON 5TH: KRUGER'S CARICATURES This exhibition features German-born Sebastian Kruger's caricatures of Alfred Hitchcock, Robert Johnson, Satchmo, the Rolling Stones, and others. Reception: *Thu., Aug. 3, 6-8pm*. Exhibition: *Through Aug. 15. 1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111.* **www.arton5th.com**.

WOMEN & THEIR WORK: ALL DRESSED IN WHITE Curated by filmmaker Diana Zander Mason, this show features a diverse range of media – documentary, fiction, animation, performance art, audio and video installation – exploring the emerging definitions of marriage. Reception: *Thu., Aug. 3, 6-8pm*. Exhibition: *Aug. 3-Sept. 9. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064.* **www.womenandtheirwork.org**.



Elaine Bradford's large installation confronts the gallery space in Okay Mountain's "Outside In" exhibition.

YARD DOG: SCULPTED BEASTIES features work by gallery stalwarts Issac Smith, Jon Langford, Eric Bellis, Chuckie Williams, Jimmy Lee Sudduth, Mose Tolliver, Bill Miller, and newcomer Kurt Herrmann and others. Reception: *Sat., Aug. 5, 7-9pm*. Exhibition: *Through Sept. 3. 1510 S. Congress, 912-1613.* **www.yarddog.com**.

OKAY MOUNTAIN: OUTSIDE IN Houston artist Elaine Bradford creates a large sculptural installation for the OKMT space (for this, their fourth show), while Austinite William Hundley presents a fresh series of color photographs there. Reception: *Sat., Aug. 5, 7-10pm*. Exhibition: *Through Sept. 2. 1312 E. Cesar Chavez Ste. B.* **www.okaymountain.com**.

CLOSING

TECHNOLOGIES OF WRITING AND THE IMAGE WROUGHT: HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHIC APPROACHES IN THE DIGITAL AGE "Technologies of Writing" explores the history, style, and technologies of writing from its earliest form to the present. "The Image Wrought" examines the seeming paradox of contemporary photographers embracing archaic photographic practices in today's digital age. *Through Aug. 6. 300 W. 21st, 471-8944.* **www.lib.utexas.edu/Libs/HRC/HRHRC**.

AUSTIN MUSEUM OF ART: OVER + OVER: PASSION FOR PROCESS 255 playing cards plus eight years of collecting plus 100 surgical scalpel blades plus 200 feet of contact paper plus 300 hours of cutting: You get the picture. The exhibition brings together the work of a dozen artists who labor obsessively using ordinary materials with extraordinary results. *Through Aug. 6. 823 Congress, 495-9224.* **www.amoa.org**.

LA PENA GALLERY: LAS MUJERES Sabrina Zarco presents images in fiber, honoring the tradition, struggles, and lives of Latinas. *Through Aug. 4. 227 Congress, 477-6007.*

ONGOING

ATELIER 3-D is a sculptors' studio (formerly known as Austin Sculpture Academy), featuring ceramics, plaster, resin, and more; with indoor *and* outdoor art. *2209 Pasadena, 374-0580.* **www.atelier3-d.com**.

STATE FAIR: PHOTOGRAPHS BY ARTHUR GRACE These images capture all that's unique to American state fairs. At the UT Center for American History, *through Aug. 31. 495-4518.* **www.cah.utexas.edu/news/gracex.html**.

EYE CONTACT ART showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and sometimes (in rotation) others. *12400 Amherst #102. 825-8577.* **www.eyecontactart.com**.

ADAMS AVENUE GALLERY: NORINE YUKON Color photography of Austin's natural treasures. *Through Aug. 21. 5601 Adams Ave., 453-7788.*

ART ON 5TH: THE SECRET ART OF DR. SEUSS These wildly imaginative creations offer a previously unseen dimension of Theodor Geisel's art. *1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111.* **www.arton5th.com**.

ART PALACE: COCONUTS Each of the five artists chosen for this exhibition were born between 1965 and 1985, the 20-year span covered in "Chicano Art: Resistance and Affirmation," the influential exhibition organized by UCLA in 1990. Each attended art schools during the 1990s, an era often referred to as the multicultural decade; each, however, is part of a new generation of artists that can be described as post-ethnic. *Through Aug. 23. 2109 Cesar Chavez, 496-0687.* **www.artpalacegallery.com**.

ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY is featuring work by artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru; paintings by Augustina Rodriguez, Oscar Riquelme, and Pablo Taboada; drawings by Gilberto Ramirez; and metal sculpture by Augusto Brocca. *78 San Marcos, 457-0171.*

ARTHOUSE AT THE JONES CENTER: NEW AMERICAN TALENT This 21st exhibition was selected by Aimee Chang, curator of Contemporary Art at the Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach, Calif. *Through Aug. 20. 700 Congress, 453-5312.* **www.arthousetexas.org**.

ARTSPOKEN GALLERY: AIR A juried exhibition of works by local Austin artists. *Through Aug. 19. 1507 W. Koenig.*

AUSTIN ART GLASS This glassblowing studio and gallery offers functional and decorative glass art, as well as glassblowing classes and free demonstrations. *1608 S. Congress, 916-4527.* **www.austinartglass.com**.

AVAA: BEYOND SCANNER: THE ANIMATORS' SHOWCASE After watching Richard Linklater's film *A Scanner Darkly*, you can see original works by the people who transformed the actors into digital animation. *Exhibition through Aug. 12. 37th at Home Lane, 457-0075. Donations accepted.* **www.avaaonline.org**.

BLANTON MUSEUM "Paul Chan: Present Tense" investigates the complex role of religious belief in today's political landscape. *Through Aug. 13.* "WorkSpace: Carol Bove" allows viewers to witness art in the making. *Through Oct. 1. MLK & Congress, 471-7324.* **www.blantonmuseum.org**.

BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS Unique handmade glass art and jewelry made by the staff and friends of the studio. *5241 N. Lamar, 380-0770.* **www.austinbluemoon.com**.

TEXAS STATE HISTORY MUSEUM: IT STILL AIN'T BRAGGIN' IF IT'S TRUE The Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum marks its fifth anniversary this year, with "STILL Ain't Braggin'." The exhibit explores the qualities of Vision, Friendship, Perseverance, Pride, Showmanship, and Swagger through unique objects and the stories they tell. And visitors will again be able to see the magnificent rhinestone-studded Cadillac covered with symbols of Texas. *Through Sept. 10. 1800 Congress, 936-8746.* **www.thestoryoftexas.com**.

CORONADO STUDIOS The Serie Project, a nonprofit Latino arts organization hosted by Coronado Studios, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. *6601 Felix Ave., 385-3591.* **www.serieproject.org**.

D BERMAN GALLERY: BELOW THE SURFACE: A DIFFERENT ORDER features wonderful new works by Jeffrey Dell and Marjorie Moore. *Through Aug. 26. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877.* **www.dbermangallery.com**.

DAVIS GALLERY: SANDRA LANGSTON The artist has lived in Southern Italy for more than 20 years, expressing her unique view of the region through landscape paintings. *Through Aug. 19. 837 W. 12th, 477-4929.*

DIBONA STUDIO Here's a studio/gallery devoted exclusively to the work of Joyce DiBona, including her newest oil paintings and a sculptural tattoo series. *404 W. Milton, 851-2646.*

FIRE ISLAND HOT GLASS STUDIO specializes in functional and decorative works in glass for home and garden. Glassblowing demos: *Saturdays, 9am-noon. 3401 E. Fourth, 389-1100.* **www.fireislandglass.com**.

FLUX GALLERY: KAREN MANESS The exhibition features rich and expressive East Austin urban landscapes and figurative works. *Through Sept. 9. 2401 E. Sixth, Bldg. 2, 320-0753.* **www.austinfluxstudio.com**.

FRANCOIS PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY presents the photographic work of Kim Francois. *309-B Bowie, 320-0072.*

GRAVITY CONSTANT STUDIOS: TERRY BEUTLER The gallery's grand opening presents new paintings by Beutler, depicting an autobiographical journey. *301 Chicon, Unit F, 415-254-5222.*

KATHY WOMACK GALLERY features works by native Texan Kathy Womack. *411 Brazos #100.* **www.kwomack.com**.

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: SUMMER GROUP SHOW New work by gallery artists Conrad Bakker, Karen Breneman, Francesca Gabbinani, Ewan Gibbs, and Jim Torok. Editions by Uta Barth, Vija Celmins, Gerhard Richter, and Ed Ruscha. *Through Aug. 19. 300 West Ave. #1318, 215-4965.* **www.lorareynolds.com**.

MITCHIE'S FINE BLACK ART has an eclectic selection of African and African-American artwork and craft items on display. *6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901.* **www.mitchie.com**.

THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL EPHEMERATA The ongoing exhibition in this intimate, quirky gallery is a perfect example of the more charming and enjoyable side of Austin's weirdness. *Call for appt. 1808 Singleton, 320-0566.* **www.mnae.org**.

PHOTOGECKO STUDIOS presents an array of film/digital artist John Campbell's black-and-white photographs. Monthly First Thursday events debut new images along with live music. *1413 S. First, 797-9375.* **www.photogecko.com**.

PRO-JEX GALLERY: LAST CONFLICT features black-and-white photographs by John Stormberg depicting the four corners of Native American lands, especially the relationship between humans and land in context with the last remaining Sioux Indians before the reservations. Poetry by Raul Garza accompanies the works. *Through Aug. 31. 1710 S. Lamar Ste. C, 472-7707.*

SPACES

BETH MCELHANEY GALLERY McElhaney's handmade jewelry *par excellence* is available at her new digs, which she shares with Pro-Jex Gallery in South Austin. *1710 S. Lamar Ste. B.*

BELLA BLUE BOUTIQUE: TWO STEF(PH)ANIES Paintings of succulents by Stephanie Nance are paired with new Nopolito pottery by Stefanie Distefano in this gallery-in-a-boutique. *2213 S. First, 691-5800.*

DECOLA & EUSEBI GALLERY is a working studio and gallery of stained & leaded glass and mosaics artwork. *701 Tillery, Ste. A-11, 389-2266.* **www.decola-eusebi.com**.

CSR ENTERTAINMENT GROUP features photography and original works on canvas by Texas author and artist Christopher Rogers. *1709 San Antonio St. #8. 653-9938.* **www.csrentertainment.com**.

ARTWORKS GALLERY features tropical butterflies artfully displayed in plexiboxes designed by GW Clark. *1214 W. Sixth, 472-1550.*



Jacqueline May's newest print, *The Word Made Flesh*, is among the gorgeous offerings in the "Women in the Studio" exhibition at the Dougherty Arts Center.

ATELIER 3-D, formerly the Austin Sculpture Center and the Sculpture Academy of Austin, host an open house each Saturday from 11am-7pm, September-July. August open house is held Wednesday and Thursdays, 4-10pm. *2209 Pasadena Dr., 374-0580.*

AUSTIN DINER Fancy black-and-white photography by Kristen Crumley. *Through Aug. 23. 5408 Burnet Rd., 467-9552.*

THE CATHEDRAL OF JUNK is approximately 60 tons of junk wired together over 15 years to form intricate towers and rooms in the back yard of an, we guess you might say, average South Austin home. Hours: *Sundays, 11am-2pm, or by appt. 4422 Lareina, 299-7413.* **www.keepaustinweird.com**.

CROFTS ORIGINAL presents new jewelry in gold and silver by local artist Michelle Podell of Zahava Kala. *1714 S. Congress, 445-6308.*

CULTURAS DE ARTE is a new gallery featuring Mexican folk art (statues, paintings, home decor, masks, and more) as well as unique works by proprietor Julian Orozco. *3311 N. I-35 Ste. C, 473-2302.* **www.artcultures.com**.

CYPRESS GRILL: HOT HOT HOT The Creative Arts Society and the Waterloo Watercolor Group team up for a watercolor exhibit featuring 18 artists. *Through Aug. 24. 4404 W. William Cannon Ste. L, 358-7474.* **www.cypressgrill.net**.

FAWTEL ART showcases photo and graphic impressionism by A.J. Montrose. *447-2790.* **www.fawtel.com**.

THE CREATIVE ARTS SOCIETY: HEAVEN, EARTH AND ALL THAT JAZZ Reception: *Fri., Aug. 18, 7pm, followed by an 8pm jazz concert performance with David Stevens*. Exhibition: *Aug. 6- Sept. 15*. **www.creativeartssociety.org**. *8001 Mesa, 345-8866.*

JOEY GIDSEG Gidseg's photography catches people in moments of life not usually seen. A young mime applying make-up in the mirror, a stripper getting ready in a bathroom, a mother and her recently born son: These images and others show us the truth in the human experience. Reception: *Sat., Aug. 5, 7pm*. Exhibition: *Aug. 5-31. 4700 Grover, 452-6168.*

LAS MANITAS: BONES Images of bones, skulls, and skeletons enliven the drawings and paintings of Matamoros native Alejandro Goga. *Through Aug. 4. 211 Congress, 472-9357.*

PAGGI HOUSE: ART BY RUBY Corpus Christi native Chris Powell presents a range of works in oil pastels, acrylics, and mixed mediums. *Through Aug. 16. 200 Lee Barton Dr., 499-8835.* **www.paggihouse.com**.

PARADISE CAFE: SUZANNE BROWN Abstract expressionism. *Through Aug. 30. 401 E. Sixth, 476-5667.*

ROADHOUSE RELICS is a vintage-neon gallery and studio where artist Todd Sanders creates neon signs, eye-popping carnival banners, and other tributes to U.S. popular culture. *1720 S. First, 442-6366.* **www.roadhouserelics.com**.

RUTA MAYA: POLLY JACKSON Paintings and pastels. *Through Aug. 31. 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637.* **www.rutamaya.net**.

SHORELINE GRILL: TRANSITIONS Art professor Chuck McCarter explores dreams and death in his latest works. *Through Aug. 18. 98 San Jacinto, 477-3300.* **www.shorelinegrill.com**.

CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

AUSTIN GUITARTOWN SCULPTURES Texas-based artists can submit their artwork for consideration for this project featuring up to 50 10-foot-tall Gibson guitar sculptures placed in and around Austin this summer. Check their Web site for details. **www.austinguitartown.com**.

AMOA'S FAMILY LAB The new Family Lab is an interactive space within the museum that lets you and the kids respond to the art on view. Through make-and-take art projects, collaborative creations, and interdisciplinary approaches to art, vistiors of all ages can nurture their creative side. *823 Congress, 495-9224. Free with admission ($1-5).* **www.amoa.org**.

AMOA: SUMMER CLASSES AT THE ART SCHOOL In the unique and serene setting of AMOA-Laguna Gloria. Classes for children and adults. *3809 W. 35th.* **www.amoa.org**.

2006 BLUE GENIE ART BAZAAR Applications are currently being accepted for the latest Blue Genie Art Bazaar, taking place Dec. 6-24. All media are considered. See their Web site for details. Application deadline: *Oct. 2. 916 Springdale, 444-6655.* **www.bluegenieart.com/art_bazaar_event.html**.

THE STASH: CLAY HANDBUILDING CLASS Using low-fire clay and underglazes, you can create unique items for your home, garden, or office. Basic techniques will be taught and a project offered; all suggestions will be considered at the time of class. Register in advance. Class: *Tue., Aug. 8, 6:30pm. 2209-J S. First, 448-7707. $20.* **www.austinstash.com**.

VSA ARTS OF TEXAS: CLASSROOM SUMMER KICK OFF for the New VSA Multi-Arts Classroom, creating a society where people with disabilities can learn through, participate in, and enjoy the arts. E-mail for details. *3710 Cedar, 454-9912 x11.* **larissa@vsatx.org**.

Litera

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

ADRIENNE MARTINI presents her *Hillbilly Gothic: A Memoir of Madness and Motherhood*, a darkly humorous look at her family and experiences with the baby blues. It begins: "My family has a grand tradition. After a woman gives birth, she goes mad." *Tue., Aug. 8, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.* **www.bookpeople.com**.

NINA PLANCK has led a fairly interesting life, what with being a reporter for *Time* and writing speeches for Bill Clinton, but her real forte is in *farmers' markets*. So if the fast-food diet thing didn't work for you, maybe you ought to try Planck's *Real Food: What to Eat and Why*. *Sun., Aug. 6, 3pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.* **www.bookpeople.com**.

JAMES L. HALEY presents his *Passionate Nation*, the first comprehensive history of Texas in many years. He speaks on "The Texas History They Never Taught You," focusing on some of the characters in his book who didn't make the cut in the academic histories. *Sat., Aug. 5, 2pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.*

ALTERNATIVE RADIO: ERIC SCHLOSSER The author speaks on his latest book, *Reefer Madness: Sex, Drugs, and Cheap Labor in the American Black Market*. Sam Fuqua guest hosts. *Fri., Aug. 4, 2pm. 91.7 KOOP-FM*. **www.koop.org**.

WRITING/BOOK GROUPS

AUSTIN WRITERS WORKSHOP This twice-monthly group of screenwriters is open to new members to read, discuss, and critique each other's work. *Mon., Aug. 7, 6:30pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.*

TELL ME A TALE STORYTELLING CIRCLE Listen to yarns spun by storytellers or tell your own story to a friendly audience. Hosted by the Central Texas Storytelling Guild. *Tue., Aug. 8, 7pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.*

The 2006 National Poetry Slam is almost here!

Yeah, this is no small potatoes, this is the real big deal, as explored in the front section of this very *Chronicle* (see "Slam as It Ever Was," p.38). Here are the winningest 75 slam teams from across the entire country and parts of Europe, rising and converging on your own River City to battle it out all word-wise, rhythmic, and *intense* at microphones in the Paramount Theatre and the Palmer Events Center *next* week. Prior to that, though, as a kind of performo-literary appetizer, check these **Preview Week** gigs:

There's a hella fierce **Haiku Battle** coming up fast, as hosted by Austin's acclaimed **Big Poppa E** and fought 17 syllables at a time. *Thu., Aug. 3, 8pm. Zen, 1303 S. Congress.*

National Slam Artistic Director **Mike Henry**'s award-winning film documentary, ***SlamPlanet***, gets some big-screen love from the Alamo on *Thu., Aug. 3, 10:15pm; Mon., Aug. 7, 10pm; Tue., Aug. 8, 10pm. Alamo Drafthouse South Lamar, 1120 S. Lamar*.

The Blanton Museum's **B Scene** this month features performances by **both Austin Slam teams**, interactive haiku sessions, a haiku deathmatch between **Big Poppa E** and the irrepressible **Matthew John Conley**, performances by national champ **Roger Bonair-Agard**, and music by **DJ NickNack**. *Fri., Aug. 4, 6-11pm. Blanton Museum, MLK & Congress*.

The **BET Rap It Up Tour** and **Jump on It Reunion Concert** features Austin slammers performing with the likes of **Lakeside**, **NOOK**, and **Juvenile** at the Expo Center. *Sat., Aug. 5, 5pm. Travis County Expo Center, 7311 Decker*.

Texas Rollergirls Tailgate Party has a gangly cadre of well-inked slammers helping the flat-track roller-derby champions celebrate their national, bruise-begotten victory. *Sun., Aug. 6, 6:30pm, Playland Skate Center, 8822 McCann*.

Opening Ceremonies kick off the True Week of Competition with an appearance by Hizzoner Will Wynn, who is only rumored to have composed a Persian *ghazal* which he may or may not actually perform, and much official hoopla at City Hall. *Wed., Aug. 9, noon-1:30pm*.

And then, Friday and Saturday, yes, the **2006 National Poetry Slam Finals**, for which we'll have distinct listings in the upcoming issue's Litera section (but you can also reference the complete lineup *now*, in that aforementioned "Slam as It Ever Was" feature on p.38).

THE WELL-READ WOMEN BOOKGROUP goes hammer & tongs with *Pissed Off* by Austin's own Spike Gillespie. *Mon., Aug. 7, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.* **www.bookpeople.com**.

HOWSON BRANCH BOOK CLUB trips back to *1776* by David McCullough. *Thu., Aug. 3, 7pm. Howson Library, 2500 Exposition, 472-3584.*

LITTLE WALNUT CREEK LIBRARY BOOK CLUB rises to *The City of Falling Angels* by John Berendt. *Sat., Aug. 5, 6:30pm. Little Walnut Creek Library, 835 W. Rundberg, 836-8975.*

UNIVERSITY HILLS SPANISH BOOK CLUB gets sportin' with *Memorias de mis Putas Tristes* by Gabriel García Márquez. *Tue., Aug. 8, 7:30pm. University Hills Library, 4721 Loyola, 929-0551.*

WINDSOR PARK LIBRARY BOOK CLUB offers up *A Prayer for Owen Meany* by John Irving. *Tue., Aug. 8, 7-8:30pm. Windsor Village Library, 5833 Westminster, 928-0333.*

OPEN MICS

SASHA'S RUSSIAN MARKET with your hosts Eric Wheeler and Kathleen Romana. Poetry and music. And Sasha's has chocolate! *Tuesdays, 7-9pm. 7817 Rockwood. 459-1449.*

NEO-SOUL is a certified Slam venue, and they're looking for a second team to represent Austin in August. *Wednesdays. Antonio's Tex-Mex Cafe & Cantina, 7522 N. I-35 Ste. B, 419-7070. $6.* **www.antoniostexmex.com**.

EXPRESSIONS: THE FUTURE OF POETRY! Featured performers are Christopher Lee, Danny Strack, Rhei, Ling, MC Permagrin, and more. Hosted by Chris the Future. Round robin reading follows featured poets. Bring food to share for the pot luck and cans for the Poets Pantry. *Sat., Aug. 5, 7pm. Austin Bahai Center, 2215 E.M. Franklin, 926-8880.* **www.austinbahai.org**.

CAFFEINATED POETRY (with added live music) is a new open-mic venue open to musicians and poets. Hosted by Thom the World Poet. *Every Wednesday, except the first Wednesday when they all go to Vinny's, 7-9pm. Cafe Caffeine, 909 W. Mary, 447-9473.*

THE AUSTIN POETRY SLAM Mike Henry captains the crew that has all the best of stand-up, performance art, theatre, rock & roll, and phone sex rolled into one electrifying evening. $100 in prizes every week; open mic precedes the main event. *Wednesdays, 8pm. Ego's, 510 S. Congress, 474-7091.* **www.austinslam.com**.

MONDAY NIGHT POETRY at Genuine Joe's, hosted by Justin Parker. *Mondays, 8-10pm. Genuine Joe Coffeehouse, 2001 W. Anderson, 220-1576.* **www.genuinejoe.com**.

HIDEOUT MIC is always an Open Universe event with your newest host, Bevin Shaw. *Mondays, 7-10pm. The Hideout Coffeehouse, 617 Congress, 476-0473. $2 or canned food for Poets' Pantry.* **www.thehideout.org**.

AUSTIN JAVA COMPANY features open-mic poetry and spoken word with your hosts, Rhiannon and Christopher Robin. *Thursdays, 7-10pm. Java Lounge at Austin Java, 1206 Parkway, 476-1829.* **www.austinjava.com**.

THE POETRY KARAOKE ORCHESTRA backs your poetry on the porch, with hosts Ivanho and Chris the Future. Bring canned foods for the Poets' Pantry. *Tuesdays, 8-10pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637.* **www.rutamaya.net**.

RUTA MAYA. Ruta Maya Open Mic, one of the longest running open mics in Austin welcomes the National Poetry Slam competitors with a special pre-NPS open mic. Come out and get a sneak peak of some of the teams that will be competing for National bragging rights! No Cover. Hosted by Aaron and maslow. Donations accepted for Poet's Pantry. *Tuesdays, 6-9pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637.* **www.freespeechart.com**.

SHOOTING STARS with your hosts Kathleen Romana and Eric Wheeler who want your beautiful poetry and the sublime terrors of your watchful heart. Say yes. *Thursdays, 7-9pm. Shooting Stars Coffee, 6539 N. Lamar, 377-3334.*

VENTANA DEL SOUL SUNDAYS is now hosted by Mandy Singer and features writing sessions, performances, and special guests. *Sundays, 6-9pm. Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447.* **www.ventanadelsoul.org**.

MISCELLANEOUS

TECHNOLOGIES OF WRITING and "The Image Wrought: Historical Photographic Approaches in the Digital Age" are exhibitions that include stone inscriptions from Troy, Greek papyri, Mayan hieroglyphs, and examples of early and contemporary photographs. *Through Aug. 6. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., noon-5pm. Harry Ransom Center, 21st and Guadalupe. 471-8944.* **www.hrc.utexas.edu**.

MORE POETRY! *bruise of earth*

her hair like watered pity—

we want the eternity the world has fit for us

the world will fit

the world

we came to where the cry cramped most like our own

& we will rest here still in our reach—

the water tasting like it wants us to remain

skin like the mouth of a moon.

Namaste. Vaya con dios.

POEM OF THE ISSUE

Small bits of sense float to the top of the chaos, the idea, for instance, that peace comes moment to moment, in small breaths as people know each other, respect each other — are free to speak, across borders, in small groups, when we share small things, gardens, children, song, food, a joke, hope.

– Susan Bright, from "Community" **earthfamilyalpha.blogspot.com/2006/07/middle-east-school.html**.

The Descent

D: Neil Marshall; with Shauna MacDonald, Natalie Mendoza, Alex Reid, Saskia Mulder, MyAnna Buring, Nora-Jane Noone, Oliver Milburn, Molly Kayll. (R, 99 min.)



Is *The Descent the* horror film to beat for the foreseeable future? That depends, I suppose, on a number of things, not the least of which is how horrific you find the notion of watching a sextet of city folk take to the Great Outdoors without benefit of either John Boorman or "Dueling Banjos." Granted, the outdoorsy types here are all female, and there's not a Ned Beatty among them, although pretty much everyone ends up squealing like a pig at one point or another. But still, you'd think that we as a species would have picked up a thing or two from Burt Reynolds' foray into the Georgian no-man's-land: Forced by that which is within us to test our mettle against boundless nature, we always come up short, and occasionally in pieces, howling like mad at our own stubborn inability to stay put and read a good Joe R. Lansdale book. Fortune favors the brave? Not bloody likely, and certainly not in the North Carolina Appalachians (doubled by Scotland), where spelunking troupers Sarah (MacDonald), Juno (Mendoza), Beth (Reid), Rebecca (Mulder), Sam (Buring), and Holly (Noone) have assembled to wipe away the horrors of one year previous, when blunt-force tragedy struck Sarah's family and ultimately nearly did her in as well. After an affecting reunion of these women – with only the barest of tough-girl clichés visible – and an extremely well-paced and -written series of expository dialogues, the real meat of director Marshall's horror show begins to take shape. The outing is alpha-female Juno's surprise for the lot: She's discovered a new, unexplored, subterranean cavern in the area, and this is her gift to her friends. Despite misgivings (uncharted caves can be dicey propositions, even in the harsh light of day), the group heads off into the unknown, and it's not long at all before one disaster after another occurs and then … *things with teeth* show up. Things with pale, distended, and, most importantly given the nature of *The Descent*, *empty* bellies. Marshall directed the justly praised werewolves-versus-British-soldiers-in-Scotland film *Dog Soldiers* a few years back, and, if anything, *The Descent* manages to ratchet up both the carnage (this is an extremely *wet* bloodbath) and his basic premise, which remains, "What happens to professionals when they encounter a contingency nobody planned for?" The answer, it will come as no surprise, has razor teeth and ghastly claws, fully extended. What *The Descent* does is take the woodsy, above-ground nightmare of *Dog Soldiers* and drag it down to, well, if not hell, then somewhere awfully nearby. It's a smart move on Marshall's part. I watched a special screening of this film in a real cave, underground, in the dark, and while the presence of an army of like-minded gorehounds did little to kick up my hackles, that primal fear of being buried alive – out of sight of the sun, of the sky, of anything at all but coffin-ready perma-night – worked wonders for my love of unencumbered daytime. Claustrophobic in a fun way while maintaining a brutally grim (but not so grim that domestic distributor Lions Gate kept the director's unequivocally downbeat ending) tone to the bitter end, *The Descent* may not be everything you've heard, but man, it's also a lot of things you haven't. – *Marc Savlov*

★★★ CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

New Reviews

BARNYARD: THE ORIGINAL PARTY ANIMALS

D: Steve Oedekerk; with the voices of Kevin James, Courtney Cox-Arquette, Danny Glover, Sam Elliott. (PG, 90 min.)

A slew of computer-animated films about talking animals hit theatres this year, and like clockwork, every one featured a wacky, smart-aleck sidekick for comic relief. The latest addition to the genre, *Barnyard*, offers a slight but unwelcome variation on the tradition by casting this character as the protagonist. Voiced by Kevin James *(King of Queens)*, Otis the teenage cow wisecracks and parties his way through life on a farm where animals live like humans and male cows have udders. Apparently, cows occupy the ruling class of the barnyard hierarchy, and Otis is set to inherit leadership from his father. Content to surf on hills and throw barn parties, Otis shrugs off his destiny along with his father's patient lectures about responsibility. But rebellious children take heed: Otis' father dies at the hands of murderous coyotes soon after his son ignores the elder cow's wisdom and goes off to party. The tragedy leaves the guilt-ridden Otis alone to shoulder his newfound responsibility and confront the murderous coyotes. That is, with the help of his zany barnyard friends and some flashbacks of his dad. Why writer/director Steve Oedekerk decided to remake *The Lion King* with CGI farm animals is up for debate, but it certainly wasn't for aesthetic reasons; the animation looks shoddy and flat compared even to modern video games. The film's humor feels equally dated. Most of the sight gags and extended jokes about humans' ill-informed notions of the animal world are lifted from *Toy Story*, then changed up a bit to suit the farm setting. Occasionally, the film reaches the sly, adult-oriented humor of Pixar fare, especially when the characters muse about their inevitable fate as farm animals. Mostly though, it's strictly for kids, and, as the three or four people who saw Oedekerk's previous directing effort, *Kung Pow: Enter the Fist* (sadly, my hand is raised), can attest, the writer/director tends to stretch even throwaway jokes minutes past the punch line. In all fairness, *Barnyard* has far more wit (and certainly fewer fart jokes) than the misguided kung-fu parody, and its message about accepting responsibility and helping others comes through with sincerity and precious little sarcasm. By the end of the film, a less-obnoxious Otis learns that a little maturity and altruism go a long way. It's a fine message, but, in the case of the film itself, a little originality would have gone even further. – *Brian Clark*

★½ AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

JOHN TUCKER MUST DIE

D: Betty Thomas; with Jesse Metcalfe, Brittany Snow, Ashanti, Sophia Bush, Arielle Kebbel, Penn Badgley, Jenny McCarthy. (PG-13, 87 min.)

With a title like *John Tucker Must Die*, you would expect this teen comedy about a group of spurned females exacting revenge against a three-timing, high school studmuffin to have an edge. Though it's not an entirely disagreeable experience, there is, on the contrary, little sharp or pointed about this movie, which features *Desperate Housewives* hunk Metcalfe both without a shirt *and* in a thong, a sign that undeniably demonstrates he is stretching as an actor. (To be fair, Metcalfe has one semi-funny scene in which he has an emotional meltdown on the basketball court, but there's no question that his principal role here is to serve as the film's sex object, no doubt to the delight of pubescent girls and gay men everywhere.) The premise in Jeff Lowell's screenplay has *Heathers*-like promise – a trio of not-so-mean girls enlist the aid of a newbie student to break the heart of the heartthrob who dumped them – but it gets silly and sentimental fairly quickly, though to its credit, the cad in the title is only partially reformed in the end. (The movie probably would have ended differently 10 years ago, however, if then flavor-of-the-moment Freddie Prinze Jr. had played the lead.) As the wallflower who is supposed to act as the avenging angel, Snow has a likable quality about her, reminiscent of Reese Witherspoon; she's the girl next door, but with something more lurking just beneath the surface. It will be interesting to see if Snow is able to find more substantial roles that will give her the opportunity to show a little spunk and grit onscreen. (That may happen sooner rather than later. Rumor has it that she's been cast as the evil Amber Von Tussel in the movie version of the Broadway musical *Hairspray*.) Director Thomas seems an odd choice to helm this film, given its audience demographics, but she keeps things moving at a pace that occasionally distracts from the paper-thin plot. For better or worse, she's become queen of the B-movie comedy. Given its lack of edge and few memorable moments – well, again, there is Metcalfe wearing that Victoria's Secret underwear – *John Tucker Must Die* will undoubtedly fade into obscurity like so many silly and sentimental teen comedies before it. It's no wonder that the genre has turned to sex with apple pies and the like in an effort to distinguish itself. – *Steve Davis*

★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

THE MOSTLY UNFABULOUS SOCIAL LIFE OF ETHAN GREEN

D: George Bamber; with Daniel Letterle, David Monahan, Diego Serrano, Meredith Baxter, Dean Shelton. (R, 88 min.)

Ethan Green is mostly unfabulous. Like so many romantic comedies – gay, straight, either, neither – it gives us a couple as exciting to watch as evaporation and squanders its second bananas. It's a small point in the film for *Office Space*'s Richard Riehle to be clad in a caftan and Easter bonnet as a fussy old queen, while supermom icon Baxter is a busybody same-sex wedding planner. Meanwhile, Ethan (Letterle) searches for Mr. Right in all the wrong places: with a dissolute 19-year-old twink (Shelton) and with a baseball player struggling to emerge from the closet (soap star Serrano). Will Ethan find love in the last place he expected? Most likely. Eric Orner's eponymous comic has been adapted with allegiance, but there's little sparkle onscreen. A dreadful board-game leitmotif identifies Ethan as the "romantic hero," but the script barely attempts to fill him in besides posing him with self-help books *(Finding the Boyfriend Within)* and dreamy looks. He may be understated as a comic hero, but this Ethan seems underwritten. There are wacky flashbacks – grade-school

classmates cruise each other during a student play about nutrition – and there's an animated segment about a depressed real estate agent, but there's just not enough real heart to go along with the cutesiness. Shot on digital video, the production has a certain scrappy underdog charm but doesn't flout any aspects of the romantic-comedy formula. I'd stand in line to see a love story entirely about the Hat Sisters (Riehle and Joel Brooks), minor characters who serve as set dressing despite the fact they're far more interesting than the pretty-vacant leads. – *Marrit Ingman*

★★ Dobie

✪ THE NIGHT LISTENER

D: Patrick Stettner; with Robin Williams, Toni Collette, Sandra Oh, Rory Culkin, Bobby Cannavale. (R, 91 min.)

Based on Armistead Maupin's 2000 novel of the same name, this taut, wiry exercise in eerie bad vibes saddles its protagonist, New York-based writer-cum-radio personality Gabriel Noone (Williams), with not only the unexpected exit of his longtime companion Jess (Cannavale of *Will & Grace* and *Happy Endings*) but also an increasingly bizarre series of events involving a teenage victim of childhood abuse. That boy, Pete Logand (Culkin), has turned his demons into prose and that prose into what may very well be the literary debut of the year. At the urging of his publisher (Joe Morton), Noone reaches out to the boy, who lives in rural Wisconsin with his mother Donna (Collette), via a phone call, which then leads to suspicions that neither Pete, who is dying of AIDS, nor his mother is completely who he or she seems to be. But is Noone cracking up in the debris of his relationship, or is there something genuinely amiss? Part postmillennial meditation – on loss and love and where, exactly, those two emotional shipwrecks diverge, only later to meet up in wholly unexpected ways – and part semisuspenseful mystery-film oddity, this is a grim ride that nevertheless ends on a note of hope. As it turns out, Jess, too, has AIDS, but thanks to postmillennial pharmaceuticals he's suddenly no longer imminently doomed, nor does he need Noone to care for him around the clock. The situation gives him both a future and the curiosity about what might be beyond Noone's townhouse door, which, of course, sends Noone off his otherwise even keel. It's unlike anything else out now, and Williams, to his credit and our immense relief, has for the moment foresworn his usual giddiness in favor of a muted, hunched acting style that befits both the character of Noone and the overall tone of the film. There are precious few smiles on display here, and the ones that flicker around the edges of Williams' mouth are tentative and confused. Melancholy sits atop both the night listener and the night speaker, and it might all be too much to bear were it not for Toni Collette, who continues to amaze and disturb; she so fully inhabits the role of Pete's mother, Donna – who may or may not be utterly unhinged – that it's downright uncomfortable to watch as Noone tries to get a straight answer from her about her child. Half the time Collette seems as ephemeral as one of the shades from *The Sixth Sense*, but moments later she's spitting fire and morphing into a windswept northern harpy. Running just under 90 minutes, *The Night Listener* is emotionally dense but never fully takes flight. It *feels* brief, and while far too many studio films bog themselves down in overlong fits of action and exposi-

Openings

Barnyard: The Original Party Animals (PG)

The Descent (R)

John Tucker Must Die (PG-13)

The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green (R)

The Night Listener (R)

Shadowboxer (R)

Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby (PG-13)

World Trade Center (PG-13)

Ratings

★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be

★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless

★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points

★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots

★ Poor, without any saving graces

La bomba



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DOWNTOWN - 4TH AND COLORADO

THU, AUG 3	FAVELA RISING	7:00
	FORBIDDEN ANIMATION	9:30
	TERROR THURSDAY (FREE) GUARDIAN OF HELL	MIDNIGHT
FRI, AUG 4	SINUS SHOW: POINT BREAK	7:00 & 10
SAT, AUG 5	SINUS SHOW: POINT BREAK	7:00 & 10
SUN, AUG 6	AV GEEKS: THE MODERN HOUSEWIFE	7:00
	THE ABBA SING-ALONG	9:45
MON, AUG 7	BRING ME THE HEAD OF ALFREDO GARCIA	7:00
	MUSIC MONDAY: URGH! A MUSIC WAR	9:45
TUES, AUG 8	BRING ME THE HEAD OF ALFREDO GARCIA	7:00
	JET LI CLASSIC: FONG SAI YUK	9:45
WED, AUG 9	BRING ME THE HEAD OF ALFREDO GARCIA	7:00
	BLANKS ON A BLANK: GROUP A	9:45
	WEIRD WEDS (FREE) WILD PUSSYCAT	MIDNIGHT
THU, AUG 10	BLANKS ON A BLANK: GROUP B	7:00
	BEASTIE BOYS RAP-ALONG	9:45
	TERROR THURSDAY (FREE) EVILS OF THE NIGHT	MIDNIGHT

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TALLADEGA NIGHTS ◆	1130	200	440	735	1015
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PIRATES 2		1200	315	645	1005
A SCANNER DARKLY		145	415	705	935
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INCNVNIENT TRUTH				1135	
SLAM PLANET				1010 (Mon, Tues)	
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS				100 (Mon - Thurs - FREE!)	
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SUPERMAN RETURNS	1200 Noon			
LADY IN THE WATER		405	705	1005
YOU ME & DUPREE	115	415	715	950
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THE MOSTLY UNFABULOUS SOCIAL LIFE OF ETHAN GREEN
Fri: (4:20) 7:20, 10:00
Sat & Sun: (1:20, 4:20) 7:20, 10:00; Mon–Thurs: 7:20, 10:00
"Hilarious!" -THE NEW YORKER
STRANGERS WITH CANDY
Fri: (4:30) 7:30, 9:40; Sat & Sun: (1:30, 4:30) 7:30, 9:40
Mon–Thurs: 7:30, 9:40
CLERKS II
Fri–Sun: (4:00) 9:50
Mon–Thurs: (1:00) 7:00
A SCANNER DARKLY
Fri, Mon–Thurs: 7:00; Sat & Sun: (1:00) 7:00
BY THE PEOPLE Wed, 8/9 & Thurs, 8/10: 5:00pm
SHOWTIMES FOR FRI, AUGUST 4 – THURS, AUGUST 10
Bargain Showtimes in ()
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★ TALLADEGA NIGHTS: THE BALLAD OF RICKY BOBBY (PG–13) Fri. & Sat. 12:05 2:25 4:45 7:25 9:50 12:10 Sun. - Thu. 12:05 2:25 4:45 7:25 9:50
★ THE DESCENT (R) Fri. & Sat. 11:00 1:05 3:15 5:30 7:40 9:55 12:05 Sun. - Thu. 11:00 1:05 3:15 5:30 7:40 9:55
★ BARNYARD (PG) Fri. & Sat. 11:05 1:05 3:05 5:05 7:05 9:05 11:05 Sun. - Thu. 11:05 1:05 3:05 5:05 7:05 9:05
★ MIAMI VICE (R) Fri. - Thu. 11:05 1:45 4:10 7:30 10:00
★ THE ANT BULLY (PG) Fri. - Thu. 11:00 1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00
★ JOHN TUCKER MUST DIE (PG–13) Fri. & Sat. 11:20 1:25 3:20 5:20 7:20 9:25 11:30 Sun. - Thu. 11:20 1:25 3:20 5:20 7:20 9:25
MONSTER HOUSE (PG) Fri. & Sat. 11:10 1:10 3:10 5:10 7:10 9:10 11:10 Sun. - Thu. 11:10 1:10 3:10 5:10 7:10 9:10
LADY IN THE WATER (PG–13) Fri. & Sat. 12:20 2:35 4:55 7:15 9:40 11:55 Sun. - Thu. 12:20 2:35 4:55 7:15 9:40
LITTLE MAN (PG–13) Fri. & Sat. 11:15 1:15 3:20 5:25 7:35 9:45 11:45 Sun. - Thu. 11:15 1:15 3:20 5:25 7:35 9:45
PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST (PG–13) Fri. & Sat. 11:00 2:00 5:00 8:00 11:00 Sun. - Thu. 11:00 2:00 5:00 8:00
SUPERMAN RETURNS (PG–13) Fri. - Thu. 9:00
★ WORLD TRADE CENTER (PG–13) Wed. & Thu. 11:00 1:40 4:25 7:15 10:05

Showtimes good for Friday, 8/4 thru Thursday,8/10
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Showtimes

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4 - THURSDAY, AUGUST 10

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE DOWNTOWN *409-B Colorado, 476-1320.* Seating begins one half-hour before showtime. Admission is 18 and up. AFS events are all ages.
Beastie Boys Rap-Along: Thu (8/10), 9:45pm
Blanks on a Blank: Group A: Wed, 9:45pm
Blanks on a Blank: Group B: Thu (8/10), 7:00pm
Bring Me the Head of Alfredo Garcia: Mon-Wed, 7:00pm
Terror Thursday: ***Evils of the Night:*** Thu (8/10), 12mid
The Legend of Fong Sai-Yuk: Tue, 9:45pm
AV Geeks: ***The Modern Housewife:*** Sun, 7:00pm
Sinus Show: ***Point Break:*** Fri-Sat, 7:00, 9:45
Take a Chance on Me: The ABBA Sing-Along: Sun, 9:45pm
Music Monday: ***Urgh! A Music War:*** Sun, 9:45pm
Weird Wednesday: ***The Wild Pussycat:*** Wed, 12mid

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKE CREEK *13729 Research, 219-8135.*
Clerks II: 12:30, 3:35, 7:25, 10:05
The Devil Wears Prada: 12:10, 3:25, 7:10, 10:10
****John Tucker Must Die:*** 12:05, 3:15, 7:35, 10:35
Lady in the Water: 12:15, 3:00, 7:00, 10:15
Mallrats: Fri-Sat, 12mid
****Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby:*** 12:00, 12:35, 3:05, 3:30, 7:05, 7:30, 10:00, 10:25
You, Me and Dupree: 12:25, 3:10, 7:15, 10:30

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH *1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320.*
Clerks II: Fri, 4:35, 7:15, 9:40; Sat-Thu (8/10), 11:45am, 2:10, 4:35, 7:15, 9:40pm
Summer Movie Camp: ***Destroy All Monsters:*** Fri, 1:00pm
An Inconvenient Truth: 11:35am
****Miami Vice:*** 12:30, 3:35, 7:00, 10:00
My Super Ex-Girlfriend: Fri, 4:25, 7:25, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 1:55, 4:25, 7:25, 9:50; Mon-Tue, 4:25, 7:25; Wed-Thu (8/10), 4:25, 7:25, 9:50
Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest: 12:00, 3:15, 6:45, 10:05
A Scanner Darkly: Fri-Sun, 1:45, 4:15, 7:05, 9:35; Mon, 4:15, 7:05, 9:35; Tue, 1:45, 4:15, 7:05, 9:35; Wed, 4:15, 7:05, 9:35; Thu (8/10), 1:45, 4:15, 7:05, 9:35
Slam Planet: Mon-Tue, 10:00pm
Kids Camp: ***The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie:*** Mon-Thu (8/10), 1:00pm
****Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby:*** 11:30am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:35, 10:15pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE VILLAGE *2700 W. Anderson, 476-1320.* Tuesday matinee "Baby Day" shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and children aged infant to 6 years old. AFS events are all ages.
Lady in the Water: Fri-Tue, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05
Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest: 11:45am, 3:20, 7:00, 10:25pm
The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid
Superman Returns: 12:00pm
****Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby:*** Fri-Sat, 1:10, 4:00, 7:10, 9:50, 11:55; Sun-Thu (8/10), 1:10, 4:00, 7:10, 9:50
Videoke: Fri, 12mid
****World Trade Center:*** Wed-Thu (8/10), 12:20, 3:35, 7:05, 10:10
You, Me and Dupree: Fri, 4:15, 7:15, 9:45; Sat-Thu (8/10), 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:45

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS *9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 231-9742.* Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesdays.
Clerks II: 12:50, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:15
An Inconvenient Truth: 12:10, 2:25, 4:40, 7:00, 9:40
Leonard Cohen: I'm Your Man: 4:20, 9:45
The Night Listener: 12:30, 2:45, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00
A Scanner Darkly: 1:00, 7:10
Scoop: 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50
Shadowboxer: 12:20, 2:40, 5:05, 7:20, 9:55
Strangers With Candy: 12:40, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:10
Who Killed the Electric Car?: 11:50am, 2:00, 4:30, 6:50, 9:30pm

BARTON CREEK CINEMA (CINEMARK) *Highway 360 and Walsh Tarlton, 306-1688.* Discounts daily before 6pm. Call theatre for showtimes on Wed., Aug. 9 & Thu., Aug. 10.
Clerks II: Fri-Tue, 11:55am, 2:15, 4:40, 7:30, 10:05pm
The Descent: Fri-Tue, 11:40am, 2:20, 4:55, 7:40, 10:10pm
The Devil Wears Prada: Fri-Tue, 11:10am, 1:45, 4:20, 7:15, 10pm
Lady in the Water: Fri-Tue, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45pm
Miami Vice: Fri-Tue, 11:45am, 12:20, 2:55, 3:40, 6:30, 7:00, 9:35, 9:55pm
My Super Ex-Girlfriend: Fri-Tue, 11:35am, 2:00, 4:35, 7:05, 9:35pm
The Night Listener: Fri-Tue, 11:20am, 1:50, 4:15, 7:35, 9:55pm
Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest: Fri-Tue, 11:05am, 12:00, 2:30, 3:35, 6:05, 7:45, 9:30pm

BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) *Barton Creek Square mall (MoPac and Highway 360), 306-9190.* Matinee discounts before 6pm.
The Ant Bully: Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 11:00, 12:05, 1:05, 2:10, 3:10, 4:15, 5:20, 6:25, 7:30, 9:40pm; Sun-Thu (8/10), 11:00am, 12:05, 1:05, 2:10, 3:10, 4:15, 5:20, 6:25, 7:30, 8:40, 9:40, 10:40pm
Barnyard: The Original Party Animals: Fri-Sun, 10:15am, 11:30, 12:50, 2:00, 3:15, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:15, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (8/10), 11:30am, 12:50, 2:00, 3:15, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:15, 10:15pm
John Tucker Must Die: Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 11:05, 12:10, 1:10, 2:20, 3:20, 4:25, 5:40, 6:35, 7:45, 8:45, 9:50, 10:45pm; Sun, 11:05am, 12:10, 1:10, 2:20, 3:20, 4:25, 5:40, 6:35, 7:45, 8:45, 9:50, 10:45pm; Mon-Thu (8/10), 11:05am, 12:10, 1:10, 2:20, 3:20, 4:25, 5:25, 6:35, 7:45, 8:45, 9:50, 10:45pm
Monster House: 11:20am, 1:30, 3:40, 5:50, 8:10, 10:25pm
Omkara: Fri-Mon, 12:15, 3:25, 6:30, 9:55; Tue, 12:15, 3:25, 9:55; Wed-Thu (8/10), 12:15, 3:25, 6:30, 9:55
A Prairie Home Companion: Fri-Mon, 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00; Tue, 12:20, 2:45, 5:10; Wed-Thu (8/10), 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00
Scoop: Fri-Sat, 10:25am, 12:45, 3:00, 5:35, 7:50, 10:05pm; Sun-Thu (8/10), 12:45, 3:00, 5:35, 7:50, 10:05
Superman Returns: Fri-Sun, 10:45am, 2:05, 5:15, 8:35pm; Mon-Thu (8/10), 11:00am, 2:05, 5:15, 8:35pm
Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby: Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 11:45, 1:00, 2:15, 3:30, 4:45, 6:05, 7:15, 8:30, 9:45, 10:55pm; Mon-Thu (8/10), 11:45am, 1:00, 2:15, 3:30, 4:45, 6:05, 7:15, 8:30, 9:45, 10:55pm
You, Me and Dupree: Fri-Sat, 10:05am, 12:40, 3:05, 5:45, 8:15, 10:35pm; Sun-Thu (8/10), 12:40, 3:05, 5:45, 8:15, 10:35

DOBIE THEATRE *2025 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor), 472-FILM.*
By the People: Wed-Thu (8/10), 5:00pm
Clerks II: Fri-Sun, 4:00, 9:50; Mon-Thu (8/10), 9:50pm
The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green: Fri, 4:20, 7:20, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:00; Mon-Thu (8/10), 7:20, 10:00
A Scanner Darkly: Fri, 7:00pm; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 7:00; Mon-Thu (8/10), 7:00pm
Strangers With Candy: Fri, 4:30, 7:30, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:40; Mon-Thu (8/10), 7:30, 9:40
Wordplay: Fri, 4:10, 7:10, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:30; Mon-Thu (8/10), 7:10, 9:30

GALAXY HIGHLAND 10 *North I-35 & Middle Fiskville, 467-7305.*
****The Ant Bully*** **(in DLP digital):** 11:00am, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7pm
****Barnyard: The Original Party Animals:*** Fri-Sat, 11:05am, 1:05, 3:05, 5:05, 7:05, 9:05, 11:05pm; Sun-Thu (8/10), 11:05am, 1:05, 3:05, 5:05, 7:05, 9:05pm
****The Descent:*** Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 1:05, 3:15, 5:30, 7:40, 9:55, 12:05am; Sun-Thu (8/10), 11:00am, 1:05, 3:15, 5:30, 7:40, 9:55pm
****John Tucker Must Die:*** Fri-Sat, 11:20am, 1:25, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:25, 11:30pm; Sun-Thu (8/10), 11:20am, 1:25, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:25pm
Lady in the Water: Fri-Sat, 12:20, 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 9:40, 11:55; Sun-Thu (8/10), 12:20, 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 9:40
Little Man: Fri-Sat, 11:15am, 1:15, 3:20, 5:25, 7:35, 9:45, 11:45pm; Sun-Thu (8/10), 11:15am, 1:15, 3:20, 5:25, 7:35, 9:45pm
****Miami Vice (in DLP digital):*** 11:05am, 1:45, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00pm
Monster House: Fri-Sat, 11:10am, 1:10, 3:10, 5:10, 7:10, 9:10, 11:10pm; Sun-Thu (8/10), 11:10am, 1:10, 3:10, 5:10, 7:10, 9:10pm
Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest **(in DLP digital):** Fri, 11:00am, 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 10:00pm; Sat, 11:00am, 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 11:00pm; Sun-Thu (8/10), 11:00am, 2:00, 5:00, 8:00pm
Superman Returns: 9:00pm
****Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby*** **(in DLP digital):** Fri-Sat, 12:05, 2:25, 4:45, 7:25, 9:50, 12:10am; Sun-Thu (8/10), 12:05, 2:25, 4:45, 7:25, 9:50
****World Trade Center*** **(in DLP digital):** Wed-Thu (8/10), 11:00am, 1:40, 4:25, 7:15, 10:05pm

GATEWAY THEATRE *9700 Stonelake Blvd., between Capital of Texas Highway and Highway 183 in the Gateway shopping center, 416-5700 x3808.* Call theatre for showtimes on Wed., Aug. 9 & Thu., Aug. 10.
The Ant Bully: Fri-Tue, 12:15, 2:30, 5:00, 7:20
Barnyard: The Original Party Animals: Fri-Tue, 11:55am, 2:05, 4:15, 6:50, 9:10pm
Cars: Fri-Tue, 11:50am
The Descent: Fri-Tue, 12:20, 2:55, 5:15, 7:35, 10:00
The Devil Wears Prada: Fri-Tue, 11:35am, 2:25, 4:55, 7:50, 10:30pm
John Tucker Must Die: Fri-Tue, 12:25, 3:00, 5:25, 7:40, 10:25
Lady in the Water: Fri-Mon, 11:45am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:50, 10:40pm; Tue, 11:45am, 4:45, 7:50pm
Lady in the Water **(open captioned):** Tue, 2:15, 10:40
Miami Vice: Fri-Tue, 12:10, 12:40, 3:10, 3:40, 6:45, 7:15, 9:40, 10:10
Monster House: Fri-Tue, 12:35, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
Monster House **(digital projection):** Fri-Tue, 12:05, 2:20, 4:35, 6:55, 9:15
My Super Ex-Girlfriend: Fri-Tue, 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:45, 10:20
Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest: Fri-Tue, 12:40, 3:15, 3:50, 6:30, 6:50, 7:00, 9:45, 10:15
Superman Returns: Fri-Tue, 9:55pm
Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby: Fri-Tue, 11:30am, 12:00, 2:10, 2:40, 4:50, 5:20, 7:25, 7:55, 10:05, 10:35pm; Wed-Thu (8/10), 11:30am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:25, 10:05pm
World Trade Center: Wed-Thu (8/10), 12:10, 3:00, 7:15, 10:10
You, Me and Dupree: Fri, 2:35, 5:05, 8:00, 10:45; Sat, 11:40am, 5:05, 8:00, 10:45pm; Sun, 2:35, 5:05, 8:00; Mon, 2:35, 5:05, 10:45; Tue, 9:45am, 11:40, 2:35, 5:05pm
You, Me and Dupree **(open captioned):** Fri, 11:40am; Sat, 2:35pm; Sun, 10:45am, 11:40am; Mon, 11:40am, 8:00pm

IMAX THEATRE *Texas State History Museum (1800 N. Congress), 936-IMAX.*
Ride Around the World: A Cowboy Adventure: Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 6:00pm; Sun, 2:00, 6:00; Mon-Thu (8/10), 11:00am, 6:00pm
Superman Returns: **An IMAX 3D Experience:** Fri-Sat, 12:00, 3:00, 7:00, 10:00; Sun, 3:00, 7:00; Mon-Thu (8/10), 12:00, 3:00, 7:00
Texas: The Big Picture: Fri-Sat, 10:00am; Sun, 1:00pm; Mon-Thu (8/10), 10:00am

LAKELINE STARPORT *Lakeline Mall at Highway 183 and RR 620, 335-4793.* Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesday. Call theatre for showtimes on Wed., Aug. 9 & Thu., Aug. 10.
The Ant Bully: Fri-Tue, 11:30am, 2:10, 4:30, 7:20, 9:40pm
Barnyard: The Original Party Animals: Fri-Tue, 11:50am, 2:20, 4:40, 7:10, 9:30pm
Cars: Fri-Tue, 12:30, 4:10
The Descent: Fri-Tue, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:50, 10:25
Miami Vice: Fri-Tue, 12:50, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
Monster House: Fri-Tue, 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:30, 9:45
My Super Ex-Girlfriend: Fri-Tue, 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:40, 10:15
Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest: Fri-Tue, 11:40am, 3:00, 6:50, 8:10, 10:05pm
Superman Returns: Fri-Tue, 12:40, 4:20, 8:00
World Trade Center: Wed-Thu (8/10), 12:20, 3:40, 7:00, 10:20

METROPOLITAN *South I-35 at Stassney, 447-0101.* Call theatre for showtimes on Wed., Aug. 9 & Thu., Aug. 10.
Clerks II: Fri-Tue, 11:50am, 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 10:05pm
The Descent: Fri-Tue, 12:25, 2:55, 5:30, 8:05, 10:40
The Devil Wears Prada: Fri-Tue, 11:35am, 2:15, 5:05, 7:55, 10:35pm
Lady in the Water: Fri-Tue, 11:40am, 12:40, 2:20, 4:30, 5:00, 7:15, 7:45, 10:00, 10:35pm
Little Man: Fri-Tue, 11:40am, 2:35, 5:20, 7:50, 10:30pm
Miami Vice: Fri-Tue, 11:30am, 12:05, 1:00, 2:45, 3:30, 4:15, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:40, 10:15, 10:45pm
My Super Ex-Girlfriend: Fri-Tue, 11:50am, 2:15, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50pm
Nacho Libre: Fri-Tue, 12:15, 3:00, 5:20, 8:00, 10:30
Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest: Fri-Tue, 11:45am, 12:20, 1:15, 3:15, 4:40, 5:15, 6:45, 8:15, 9:30, 10:25pm
World Trade Center: Wed-Thu (8/10), 12:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:05

MILLENNIUM THEATRE *1156 Hargrave, 472-6932.* Located within the Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex.
Over the Hedge: Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 2:15, 6:15pm; Wed-Thu (8/10), 10:30am, 1:15pm
See No Evil: Fri-Sat, 12:15, 4:15, 8:15; Wed-Thu (8/10), 4:15pm

PARAMOUNT THEATRE *713 Congress, 472-5470.*
The Apartment: Fri, 7:00pm
Bullitt: Wed, 9:10pm; Thu (8/10), 7:00pm
Dirty Harry: Wed, 7:00pm; Thu (8/10), 9:20pm
It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World: Sat, 7:30pm; Sun, 3:00pm
Mister Roberts: Tue, 7:00pm
One, Two, Three: Fri, 9:40pm
Playtime: Sat, 3:30pm; Sun, 7:30pm
Twelve Angry Men: Tue, 9:30pm

ROUND ROCK 8 *2120 N. Mays (Round Rock), 388-2848.* Discounts daily before 5pm. Call theatre for showtimes on Tue., Aug. 9 & Thu., Aug. 10.
****The Ant Bully:*** Fri-Tue, 11:10am, 1:45, 5:00, 7:50, 10:05pm
****Barnyard: The Original Party Animals:*** Fri-Tue, 10:00am, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:20, 9:40pm
****John Tucker Must Die:*** Fri-Tue, 10:45am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:50pm
Lady in the Water: Fri-Tue, 11:00am, 4:50, 10:30pm
Little Man: Fri-Tue, 2:00, 8:00
****Miami Vice:*** Fri-Tue, 10:05am, 1:15, 4:15, 7:10, 10:10pm
Monster House: Fri-Tue, 10:15am, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 10pm
Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest: Fri-Tue, 12:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:15
****Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby:*** Fri-Tue, 10:30am, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30pm

TINSELTOWN NORTH *North I-35 and FM 1825 (Pflugerville), 989-8540.*
****The Ant Bully:*** 9:10am, 11:25, 1:55, 4:30, 6:55, 9:25pm
****Barnyard: The Original Party Animals:*** 9:15am, 11:15, 11:45, 2:15, 4:15, 4:45, 6:45, 7:15, 9:15, 9:45pm
Cars: 9:25am, 12:35, 3:35pm
Clerks II: 9:20am, 11:55, 2:40, 5:20, 7:55, 10:40pm
Click: 6:50, 9:35
****The Descent:*** 9:00am, 11:40, 2:20, 5:00, 7:30, 10:15pm
****John Tucker Must Die:*** 9:55am, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30pm
Lady in the Water: 10:45am, 1:35, 4:25, 7:20, 10:05pm
Little Man: 9:10am, 11:40, 2:15, 4:50, 7:25, 10:10pm
****Miami Vice:*** 9:30am, 10:00, 12:40, 1:10, 3:50, 4:20, 7:00, 7:30, 10:10, 10:40pm
Monster House: 9:05am, 11:30, 2:00, 4:40, 7:05, 9:40pm
My Super Ex-Girlfriend: 9:05am, 11:35, 2:05, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40pm
****The Night Listener:*** 9:00am, 11:30, 2:00, 4:35, 7:00, 9:30pm
Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest: 10:15am, 10:40, 1:50, 2:25, 5:25, 6:00, 9:00, 9:30pm
Superman Returns: 11:35am, 3:20, 6:55, 10:30pm
****Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby:*** 10:45am, 11:15, 1:35, 2:05, 4:25, 4:55, 7:15, 7:45, 10:05, 10:35pm
You, Me and Dupree: 11:10am, 1:55, 4:50, 7:40, 10:25pm

TINSELTOWN SOUTH *South I-35 at Stassney, 326-3800.*
****The Ant Bully:*** Fri, 10:35am, 11:20, 12:55, 1:40, 3:40, 5:00, 6:55, 9:35pm; Sat-Sun, 10:35am, 12:55, 3:40, 6:55, 9:35pm; Mon, 10:35am, 11:20, 12:55, 1:40, 3:40, 6:55, 9:35pm; Tue-Thu (8/10), 10:35am, 11:20, 12:55, 1:40, 3:40, 5:00, 6:55, 7:45, 9:35, 10:05pm
****Anthony Kaun Hai?:*** Fri, 9:45pm; Sat-Mon, 6:30, 9:45
Barnyard: The Original Party Animals: 10:20am, 11:15, 1:05, 1:45, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 7:40, 9:40, 10:10pm
Cars: 12:50, 3:45, 6:50
Click: 11:00am, 1:55, 4:50, 7:25, 10:00pm
Godavari: Sat-Sun, 3:30pm
****John Tucker Must Die:*** 10:30am, 11:25, 12:45, 1:50, 3:30, 4:40, 7:10, 7:50, 9:25, 10:20pm
Monster House: 11:35am, 12:40, 2:00, 3:35, 4:55, 6:45, 7:55, 9:30, 10:25pm
****The Night Listener:*** 11:05am, 1:35, 4:35, 7:20, 10:15pm
A Scanner Darkly: 10:40am, 1:25, 4:45, 7:35, 10:10pm
Superman Returns: 11:40am, 3:30, 8:05pm
****Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby:*** 10:15am, 10:45, 11:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:05, 3:55, 4:25, 5:05, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:40, 10:05, 10:30pm
You, Me and Dupree: 10:25am, 1:10, 3:50, 7:05, 9:50, 10:25pm

WESTGATE 11 *South Lamar and Ben White, 899-2717.* Discounts daily before 6pm. Call theatre for showtimes on Wed., Aug. 9 & Thu., Aug. 10.
The Ant Bully: Fri-Tue, 11:50am, 2:10, 4:35, 7:20pm
Barnyard: The Original Party Animals: Fri-Tue, 11:00am, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:50, 9:55pm
The Descent: Fri-Tue, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:25, 9:50
The Devil Wears Prada: Fri-Tue, 12:10, 2:40, 5:15, 7:55, 10:30
John Tucker Must Die: Fri-Tue, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:35, 10:00
Lady in the Water: Fri-Tue, 11:40am, 2:20, 5:05, 7:45, 10:15pm
Miami Vice: Fri-Tue, 12:30, 4:00, 7:05, 10:10
Monster House: Fri-Tue, 11:15am, 1:50, 4:25, 7:00, 9:15pm
Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest: Fri-Tue, 11:30am, 3:05, 6:30, 9:45pm
Superman Returns: Fri-Tue, 9:30pm
Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby: Fri-Tue, 11:35am, 2:15, 4:55, 7:40, 10:20pm
World Trade Center: Wed-Thu (8/10), 11:00am, 1:50, 4:45, 7:40, 10:35pm
You, Me and Dupree: Fri-Tue, 12:25, 2:55, 5:25, 8:00, 10:25

An asterisk (*) before a title means that no passes or special admission discounts will be accepted.

Changes may sometimes occur; viewers are encouraged to call theatres to confirm showtimes.

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austinchronicle.com/film.

tion, this is one film from which you leave the dark feeling it concluded, if anything, too soon. Without giving it all away, Maupin's vaguely Kafka-esque storyline has had its own literary doppelganger in the real world (which, if you're familiar with the writing of J.T. Leroy, will only serve to rattle you more). What's really real, after all? At the end, not even Maupin can say for sure. – *Marc Savlov*
★★★ Arbor, CM Barton Creek, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

SHADOWBOXER

D: Lee Daniels; with Helen Mirren, Cuba Gooding Jr., Stephen Dorff, Vanessa Ferlito, Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Macy Gray. (R, 93 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Reportedly equal measures audacious and preposterous, this directing debut from the producer of *Monster's Ball* and *The Woodsman* stars Gooding Jr. and Mirren as passionate yet unlikely lovers. They also are assassins, as well as stepmother and stepson. And if that's not enough drama, one of them also has a fatal disease. – *Marjorie Baumgarten*
Arbor

✪ TALLADEGA NIGHTS: THE BALLAD OF RICKY BOBBY

D: Adam McKay; with Will Ferrell, John C. Reilly, Gary Cole, Jane Lynch, Michael Clarke Duncan, Leslie Bibb, Amy Adams, Molly Shannon, Sacha Baron Cohen, Andy Richter, Elvis Costello, Mos Def. (PG-13, 105 min.)

Silly, inconsistent, and completely frivolous, *Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby* also happens to be one of the funniest movies this side of 2006. Director McKay *(Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy)* returns with a paint-by-numbers plot and a star (Ferrell) performing well-rehearsed tricks. In spite of my yearning for new comedy ground, I can't deny that there's a good reason Ferrell is one of the most highly paid actors working today: He's hilarious. Moreover, he successfully surrounds himself with outrageous, funny entertainers. Ferrell plays Ricky Bobby, a stock-car racer born to drive but lacking direction. Ricky only has eyes for No. 1, even at the expense of his best friend (Reilly). With his babe of a wife (the very funny Bibb), hellcat kids, and mansion, Ricky seems to have it all. But complications ensue when a French driver, Jean (Cohen), invades Ricky's turf and takes over. With his childish expressions and doughy body, Ferrell manages at different times to be delicate, endearing, or completely over-the-top. Unafraid of surrealism or slapstick, he'll clearly do anything for the joke but is often at his most hilarious when he subtly underplays a scene. Reilly is brilliant as Ricky's best friend and No. 2 man; while in general his comic roles are few and far between, hopefully this turn marks a portent of things to come. Unfortunately, Cohen (*Da Ali G Show*), all thin cigarettes and incomprehensible accent, isn't quite up to par as Jean, Ricky's outed nemesis (though can anything top Cohen's inspired alter ego, Borat?) – though the filmmakers do squeeze every possible joke out of the introduction of a gay racer. Richter, on the other hand, is underused, though hilarious, as Jean's husband. As a boozy wife, Shannon is funny, but her performance is too brief, and



Adams (*Junebug*) has no real opportunity to demonstrate her incredible talent. Taking full advantage of Americana graphics and abundant visual opportunities, the first 20 minutes of the film sail along with hilarious glory, but when the story gets going, it becomes rapidly apparent that there won't be any surprises in the plot department. While jokes are repeatedly used to cover up plot holes, the successful use of surrealist humor (Elvis Costello shows up for no real reason) compensates. Imagine attending a NASCAR race with the funniest, wildest person you know. Sure, you might get hot and a little overwhelmed, but you'd laugh a lot and would never regret the experience. – *Toddy Burton*
★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

WORLD TRADE CENTER

D: Oliver Stone; with Nicolas Cage, Michael Pena, Jay Hernandez, Armando Riesco, Maria Bello, Maggie Gyllenhaal. (PG-13, 125 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Just one month short of the fifth anniversary of 9/11 comes this Oliver Stone movie that focuses on the story of two Port Authority cops who were trapped in the rubble yet were among the last victims to be rescued alive. Instead of delving into conspiracy theories, this time Stone strives for faithful accuracy. *(Opens Wednesday.)* – *Marjorie Baumgarten*
Alamo Drafthouse Village, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Westgate

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Bullitt (PG) — Wed. 9:10 - Wed. 7
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THE ANT BULLY

D: John A. Davis; with the voices of Julia Roberts, Nicolas Cage, Paul Giamatti, Meryl Streep, Zach Tyler Eisen, Bruce Campbell, Lily Tomlin, Cheri Oteri, Larry Miller. (PG, 88 min.)

That Warner Bros. has chosen to craft an animated film around childhood's fascination with all things small and squirmy is interesting – the project is adapted from John Nickle's children's book – but it makes for a strange time at the movies. The story is both simple and weird: 10-year-old beanpole/bully Lucas (Eisen), who regularly takes out his feelings of victimization on the anthill in his front yard, finds himself part of that very colony when ant-wizard Zoc (Cage) shrinks him down to a more manageable size. The queen (Streep) mandates that he be trained to "become an ant," which Lucas does, with commendable results and thanks in no small part to his ant "mentor," (Roberts), climaxing in an airborne third-act battle with Giamatti's stogie-chomping exterminator. *The Ant Bully* glows with vibrant greens and violets and moves with all the resolute forward motion of, well, an ant. Unfortunately it's also as seemingly arbitrary in its meanderings and not what you'd call a picnic. *(07/28/2006)* *– Marc Savlov*

★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

CLERKS II

D: Kevin Smith; with Brian O'Halloran, Jeff Anderson, Rosario Dawson, Trevor Fehrman, Jennifer Schwalbach Smith, Jason Mewes, Kevin Smith, Zak Charles Knutson. (R, 98 min.)

Kevin Smith regains solid footing with this sequel. Twelve years have passed since we left counter clerks Dante Hicks (O'Halloran) and Randal Graves (Anderson) at the New Jersey Quick Stop and next-door video store. Their thoughts and conversations are still as raunchy and witty as they were when they were in their 20s, and their aspirations are just as absent as they were a decade ago. They now work at Mooby's, a themed fast-food joint. The addition of Dawson as the restaurant manager almost single-handedly elevates the quality of Smith's movie, which is predominantly performed by his usual ragged repertory corps. Another newcomer, Fehrman, is also a standout, and Jay (Mewes), as one half of the Smith's recurring pot-dealing duo Jay and Silent Bob, has never been sharper or funnier. Smith's filmmaking technique has matured a bit, along with his characters; yet Randal and Dante, despite approaching middle age, remain as profane and scatalogical as ever – if not more so. *(07/21/2006)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★★½ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, CM Barton Creek, Dobie, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North



Mister Roberts

***Mister Roberts* (1955)** *D: John Ford; with Henry Fonda, James Cagney, Jack Lemmon, William Powell. (NR, 123 min.)* **Summer Film Classics.** Fonda re-creates his Broadway role as an officer on a cargo ship who's eager for some "real" action but must remain content with wrangling the ship's ornery captain. Lemmon won a Supporting Actor Oscar for his work. (Double bill: *Twelve Angry Men*) @Paramount, Tuesday, 7pm; $7 adults ($6 before 6pm), $5 children/students/seniors, $45 Flix-Tix (good for 10 admissions).

LADY IN THE WATER

D: M. Night Shyamalan; with Paul Giamatti, Bryce Dallas Howard, Jeffrey Wright, Bob Balaban, Sarita Choudhary, Cindy Cheung, Shyamalan, Mary Beth Hurt, Freddie Rodriguez. (PG-13, 110 min.)

While *Lady in the Water* manages to be both perplexing and glaringly obvious, it's also a commendable effort to create a modern fairy tale from the seabed up. However you feel about Shyamalan's end result, you can fault neither his ambition nor his peculiar vision, which commingles elements of fantasy, horror, and the real world (itself increasingly fantastical and horrific) to craft a surreal, slightly off-kilter twilight tone that Rod Serling would recognize in a heartbeat. *Lady in the Water*, however, is murky where it most requires clarity, and the spindliness of its mythic pilings leaves the whole of the film tilting wildly toward the silly. Giamatti's powerful performance very nearly snatches *Lady in the Water* from the jaws of hokum – performances are bang-on, and characters are fascinating right across the board, even Shyamalan's own – but ultimately *Lady in the Water* capsizes under the weight of its own goofy story. *(07/21/2006)* *– Marc Savlov*

★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

LEONARD COHEN: I'M YOUR MAN

D: Lian Lunsun. (PG-13, 104 min.)

Part concert film and part biography, Lunson's *Leonard Cohen: I'm Your Man* is a moving tribute to this legendary artist's life and career. Moreover, the film salutes four decades of Cohen's songwriting output, a strategy that happily steers the movie toward an appreciation of the 71-year-old Cohen's musical legacy rather than the kind of dutiful hagiography that clouds so many other artist portraits. The concert recorded for the film took place in January 2005 in Sydney, Australia. Overseen by the maverick producer Hal Willner, the show featured an esteemed collection of musicians and vocalists performing and interpreting a vast array of Cohen songs. Among the most prominent are Nick Cave, Rufus Wainwright, Kate and Anna McGarrigle, Beth Orton, Martha Wainwright, Linda Thompson, and Antony Hegarty. Shrewdly, the film showcases only portions of the show, while intercutting footage of the director's conversations with Cohen reflecting on his career. *(07/14/2006)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★★★ Arbor

LITTLE MAN

D: Keenen Ivory Wayans; with Marlon Wayans, Shawn Wayans, Tracy Morgan, Kerry Washington, John Witherspoon, Chazz Palminteri, Lochlyn Munro. (PG-13, 90 min.)

This Wayans farce is about a diminutive ex-con (Marlon, whose face has been digitally superimposed upon the body of a little person) who poses as a foundling baby in order to retrieve a stolen diamond. He lands on the doorstep of a Buppie couple (Shawn and Washington) who take him in despite the protestations of cranky Pops (Witherspoon). They take him to the park, they have a birthday party with Rob Schneider (playing a schlub in a Barney-esque suit), and various dads get hit in the crotch again and again. They dress him in outrageous jammies with ears. They take his temperature rectally. It's almost as painful and humiliating to watch as I imagine it would be to actually experience these events as a little person infantilized and held captive by idiots. Occasionally the movie actually tries to be about the emotional states of parenthood and family, but its heart isn't in it because it has no heart. *(07/21/2006)* *– Marrit Ingman*

½ Highland, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North

MIAMI VICE

D: Michael Mann; with Jamie Foxx, Colin Farrell, Gong Li, Naomie Harris, Ciarán Hinds. (R, 132 min.)

Very nearly as electrifying as one of South Beach's ubiquitous pastel-peach beachfront cabanas, or, alternately, an iridescently deceased jellyfish stranded at low tide and awash in sand fleas, Mann's edgy (read: underlit) take on the vacuous Eighties television cop-opera takes perhaps one too many cues from its cathode predecessor. For one thing, it's all style and precious little substance, drowning in a chromium murk (courtesy of *Collateral*'s director of photography Dion Beebe), which manages to make this most garish of Floridian playscapes into a dreary, overcast hellscape, alternately queasy and threatening. For another, Farrell and Foxx, as libidinous detective Sonny Crockett and his marginally more grounded partner detective Ricardo Tubbs, have all the mumbly chemistry of a late Mickey Spillane hangover. There's style to burn, but its not the kind you'd want to have on your walls, unless crimson back-spatter is the "new black." *(07/28/2006)* *– Marc Savlov*

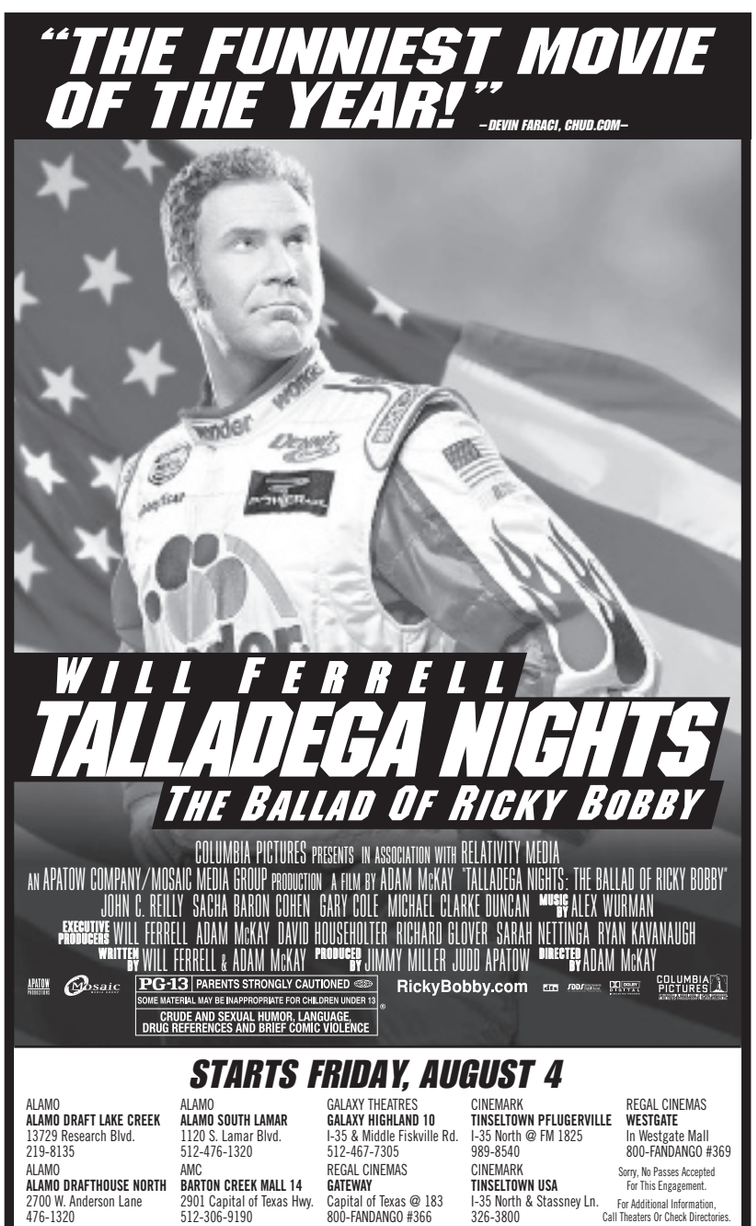
★½ Alamo Drafthouse South, CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

MONSTER HOUSE

D: Gil Kenan; with the voices of Steve Buscemi, Michael Musso, Nick Cannon, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Jon Heder, Kevin James, Jason Lee, Sam Lerner, Spencer Locke, Catherine O'Hara, Fred Willard. (PG, 91 min.)

Equal parts Ray Bradbury and rickety carnival spook show, this animated tale of a carnivorous, haunted house and the band of neighborhood kids who decide to put it out of commission feels maddeningly unfinished, as though it were tinkered with in postproduction, rejiggered unnecessarily, and finally let loose during the entirely inappropriate summer months, when it ought to be arriving on All Hallows Eve. Bad timing aside, the story is a wispy thing that, surprisingly, given its Steven Spielberg and Robert Zemeckis producerial pedigree, fails to adequately evoke the sheer kidhood magic of the Halloween season. *Monster House*'s animation is its best aspect, working up a blood red and purpley color palette that fairly screams "Boo!," but even the genuinely creepy sight of this monstrous manse uprooting itself from its foundation and chasing the kids down the block can't make up for the confused tone of the script, which is seemingly pitched at neither youngsters nor adults. *(07/21/2006)* *– Marc Savlov*

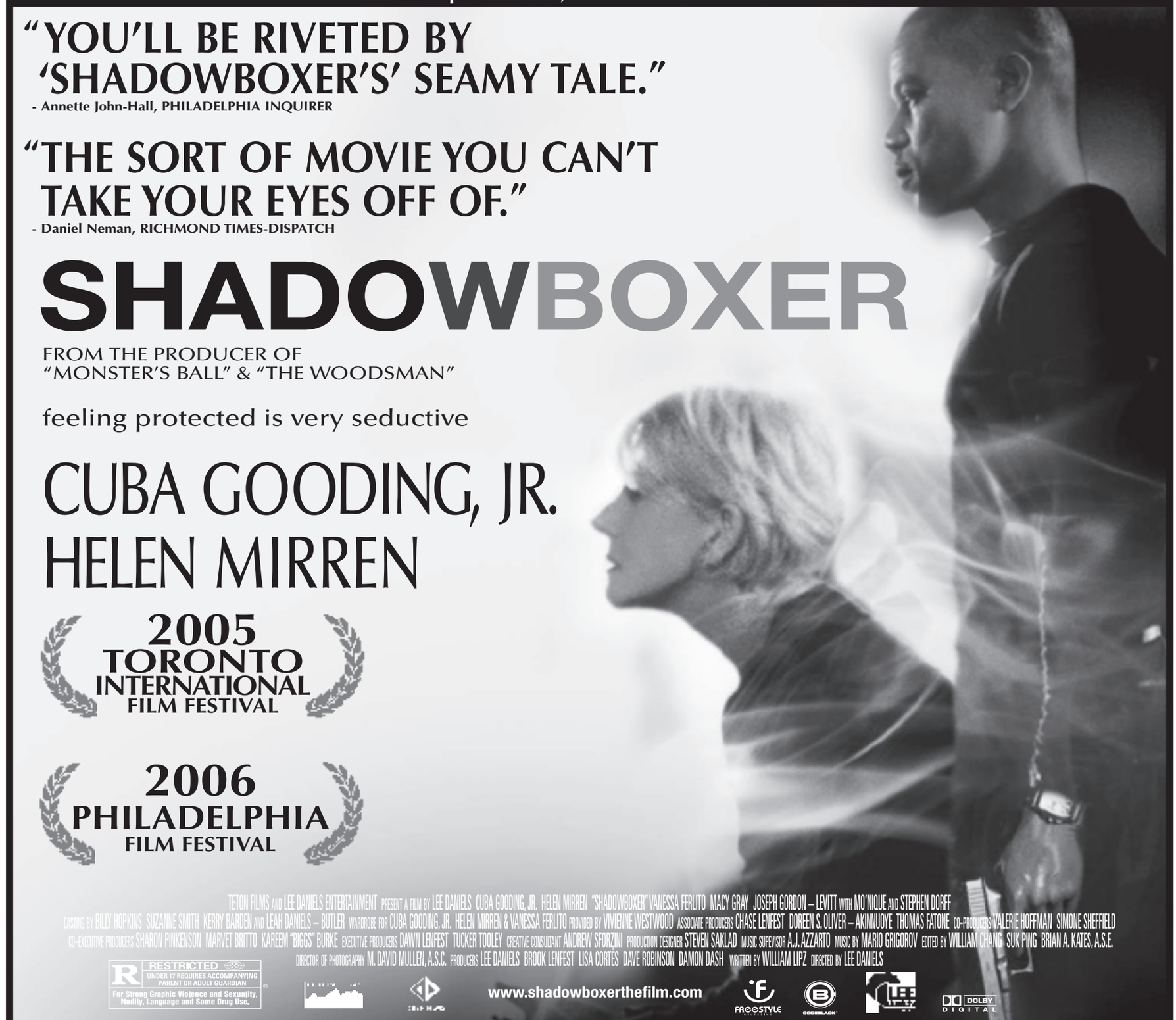
★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate



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– Stephen Holden, THE NEW YORK TIMES

"YOU'LL BE RIVETED BY 'SHADOWBOXER'S' SEAMY TALE."
- Annette John-Hall, PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

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CASTING BY BILLY HOPKINS SUZANNE SMITH KERRY BARDEN AND LEAH DANIELS – BUTLER WARDROBE FOR CUBA GOODING, JR. HELEN MIRREN & VANESSA FERLITO PROVIDED BY VIVIENNE WESTWOOD ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS CHASE LENFEST DOREEN S. OLIVER – AKINNUOYE THOMAS FATONE CO-PRODUCERS VALERIE HOFFMAN SIMONE SHEFFIELD
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Superman Returns: An IMAX 3D Experience



***Superman Returns: An IMAX 3D Experience* (2006)** *D: Bryan Singer; with Brandon Routh, Kevin Spacey, Kate Bosworth, James Marsden, Frank Langella, Parker Posey, Eva Marie Saint. (PG-13, 154 min.)* In this IMAX 3-D version, four scenes (which total about 20 minutes) have been converted to 3-D. See First Runs section for review. (*) @IMAX/Texas State History Museum, Fri-Sat, 12, 3, 7, 10; Sun, 3, 7; Mon-Thu (8/10), 12, 3, 7

MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND

D: Ivan Reitman; with Uma Thurman, Luke Wilson, Anna Faris, Eddie Izzard, Wanda Sykes. (PG-13, 95 min.)

You'd think that the director behind *Ghostbusters* and a writer/producer for *The Simpsons* could get together and make one hilariously outrageous movie. Well, think again. While director Reitman and writer Don Payne collaborate to provide intermittent laughs, in the end this high-concept farce crashes down pretty low. There's no doubt that Thurman is one super-hot superhero, and Wilson's endearing befuddlement and adorable "aw, shucks" smile can temporarily distract from the absence of a good joke or an inspiring moment. But ultimately, the star-power smoke screen withers, and you're left with a silly film, a couple of decent jokes, and an entirely too-predictable plot. Think *Fatal Attraction* meets *X-Men* and you basically have the gist. Some small saving graces exist in the supporting cast. But, like the rest of the film, they too are hit or miss. *(07/28/2006)* *– Toddy Burton*

★½ Alamo Drafthouse South, CM Barton Creek, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

OMKARA

D: Vishal Bhardwaj; with Ajay Devgan, Saif Ali Khan, Vivek Oberoi, Kareena Kapoor. (NR, 151 min., subtitled)

Not reviewed at press time. Shakespeare's *Othello* is reimagined for the Indian audience in this Hindi-language film. The director also filmed *Maqbool* in 2003, his reinterpretation of *Macbeth*. *(07/28/2006)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*

AMC Barton Creek Square

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST

D: Gore Verbinski; with Johnny Depp, Orlando Bloom, Keira Knightley, Jack Davenport, Bill Nighy, Jonathan Pryce, Stellan Skarsgård, Naomie Harris, Geoffrey Rush. (PG-13, 150 min.)

Suffice it to say, *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest* is hardly the wildly overlong snoozer the 2½ hours required to view it might suggest. On the other hand, our Oceanic Friends have been transformed from simple, lovingly presented slices of sushi into all manner of bipedal beasties that are forced to do the bidding of Davy Jones (Nighy) as he captains *The Flying Dutchman* above and beneath the briny deeps in pursuit of Depp's still-brilliant caricature of unbuckled swash, "Captain" Jack Sparrow, he of the super-Max Factored lids and garishly effete mannerisms. Unlike the opening cannonade in what will eventually be a trilogy, this salvo is a bit much. Of course, there are those who would say the original was a bit much, and they'd be right. But pirate films by their very nature should always be a bit much, just not *too* much, if you catch my driftwood. *(07/14/2006)* *– Marc Savlov*

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

A SCANNER DARKLY

D: Richard Linklater; with Keanu Reeves, Robert Downey Jr., Woody Harrelson, Winona Ryder, Rory Cochrane. (R, 100 min.)

It's back to the future for Linklater in his animated film version of Philip K. Dick's 1977 acclaimed science-fiction novel, *A Scanner Darkly*. Animating the film proves to be a terrific strategy, as it enhances the story's mood of squinty surveillance and ubiquitous uncertainty. The plot grows dense as the overall paranoia mounts, and there's no clarity as to who's spying on whom or what's real and what's drug-induced. In this regard, the movie, like Dick's book, is one of the best depictions of the drug-addled state. However, its accuracy doesn't fully compensate for the experience of confusion while watching the film. What *A Scanner Darkly* excels at is mood and tone, and Dick's story about there being no difference between cops and criminals in a world of pervasive surveillance is as cautionary a tale today and tomorrow as it was 30 years ago. Terrifically good performances are turned in by the entire cast. *(07/07/2006)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, Dobie, Tinseltown South

SCOOP

D: Woody Allen; with Scarlett Johansson, Allen, Hugh Jackman, Ian McShane. (PG-13, 96 min.)

Allen's second British film with Johansson finds the director falling back into the rut he carved for himself with every forgettable comedy since the underrated *Deconstructing Harry*. Johansson's performance as a naive college student is a stretch, and while Jackman tries hard, he can't overcome the fact that his part only exists to serve the plot. Allen puts forth an inspiring amount of energy, but he's certainly not breaking new ground with this caricature that he's played many times before. However, Allen executes the screwball setup with impeccable comic timing, and the murder-mystery plot unfolds with the same subversion of audience expectations that made the third act of *Match Point* such a nail-biter. Still, it all feels inconsequential. *Scoop* suffers from the same problem as much of Allen's recent work: Even when the witty banter clicks, it seems stale. *(07/28/2006)– Brian Clark*

★★ Arbor, AMC Barton Creek Square

STRANGERS WITH CANDY

D: Paul Dinello; with Amy Sedaris, Paul Dinello, Stephen Colbert, Greg Hollimon, Dan Hedaya, Deborah Rush, Allison Janney, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Matthew Broderick, Sarah Jessica Parker, Ian Holm, Kristen Johnston. (R, 87 min.)

Strangers With Candy is the kind of TV show and movie that begs for a cult following. Surreal and hilarious, the comedy may not be for everyone, but when you get it, you can't stop laughing. With a format that lampoons afterschool specials, the writing is a brilliant collaboration of the obviously absurd and the wryly satirical. At once subtle and completely over the top, the comedy of co-creators Dinello, Colbert, and Sedaris rivals *The Simpsons* and *Team America: World Police* in its audacity and absurdity. The jokes are non-stop and the attention to detail, inspired. The premise of the film, expanded as a kind of "prequel" from the TV show, begins with Jerri Blank (Sedaris), the 46-year-old ex-junkie, ex-con returning to high school. Disturbingly genius, Sedaris (sister of David) takes on her role with a kind of Sellars-esque transformation. Fans of the show will rejoice and a few newbies will become converts. *(07/21/2006)* *– Toddy Burton*

★★★½ Arbor, Dobie

SUPERMAN RETURNS

D: Bryan Singer; with Brandon Routh, Kevin Spacey, Kate Bosworth, James Marsden, Frank Langella, Parker Posey, Eva Marie Saint, Sam Huntington, Kal Penn. (PG-13, 154 min.)

Superman (Routh) returns to Earth seeming more like a humbled prodigal son than an invincible superhero. Everything is just as it was before, except that Superman's love, Lois Lane (Bosworth), has moved on. Director Singer and his fellow screenwriters, Michael Dougherty and Dan Harris, have concocted a delicate balancing act with their Superman epic: The film acknowledges the realities of the present day while also falling in line with the past. Singer's action sequences are terrific (and make us anxious to see the IMAX 3-D version of the film), although Singer employs the story's inherent father-son conflict and Christ iconography with thick brush strokes. The casting is excellent, but the actors, unfortunately, are given too little to do. We come away from the film with insufficient emotional attachment to these touchstone American characters. Yes, this *Superman* soars, but he doesn't always take us with him. *(06/30/2006)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Village, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

WHO KILLED THE ELECTRIC CAR?

D: Chris Paine. (PG, 92 min.)

Opening with a mock funeral for General Motors' EV1 electric car, this multifaceted documentary seeks the culprit responsible for its demise and finds plenty of blame to go around. The story unfolds like a good murder mystery, broadening its scope into areas such as grassroots organizing, corporate conspiracies, and governmental interference. The history of the electric car is largely a California-based saga due to the state's passage of the Zero Emissions Mandate in 1990. By 1996 GM released the EV1, a completely electric-powered car, but despite consumer happiness with the vehicle, the entire fleet of EV1s was recalled by GM in 2001. The film interviews owners, automakers, legislators, and engineers to find out why the car posed such a threat to the status quo. Most notably, the film uncovers the duplicitous GM campaign in which it agitated against the Zero Emissions Mandate while also complying with the law by building the required cars. *(07/28/2006)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★★ Arbor

YOU, ME AND DUPREE

D: Anthony Russo, Joe Russo; with Owen Wilson, Matt Dillon, Kate Hudson, Michael Douglas. (PG-13, 108 min.)

Studios probably gave *You, Me and Dupree* a green light without even reading a script. Imagine the pitch: "It's a wacky comedy with Owen Wilson, fresh off last summer's megahit *The Wedding Crashers*! And hey, there's a wedding in it!" So, it's a nice surprise that the filmmakers and cast deliver a funny, reasonably well-written diversion with some impressive acting and refreshing bits of realism. At first the film adheres closely to an episodic formula. However, there's a tension throughout that threatens to sink it. For every scene that feels natural there's another that's obviously scripted to keep the film's target audience (i.e., those still quoting *The Wedding Crashers*) within their comfort zone. It's an awkward mix that culminates in a drawn-out, by-the-numbers conclusion. Sidestepping even half of the clichés of the final act might have kept the film from feeling so uneven and disposable. *(07/14/2006)* *– Brian Clark*

★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, AMC Barton Creek Square, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

Bring Me the Head of Alfredo Garcia



***Bring Me the Head of Alfredo Garcia* (1974)** *D: Sam Peckinpah; with Warren Oates, Isela Vega, Gig Young, Robert Webber, Helmut Dantine, Kris Kristofferson, Emilio Fernandez. (R, 112 min.)* *Bring Me the Head of Alfredo Garcia* is a profound existential adventure, twistedly comic and openly bitter, brought to life by those two maniacs: Peckinpah and Oates. An ugly, vicious film about not very glamorous people engaged in ugly, vicious activities, it's more black comedy than anything. *– Louis Black*

(*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, Monday, 7pm.

Playtime



***Playtime* (1967)** *D: Jacques Tati; with Tati, Barbara Dennek. (NR, 126 min.)* **Summer Film Classics.** Filmed in splendid 70mm (and projected that way on the glorious Paramount screen), *Playtime* is French comic Jacques Tati's crowning achievement. Tati's familiar character Monsieur Hulot wanders through the scenes, but the movie's primary subject is Paris' modernity. The film captures the teeming humanity and the inhuman glass and steel architecture of public places – all given their due by the hapless yet comically graceful M. Hulot. @Paramount, Saturday, 3:30pm; $7 adults ($6 before 6pm), $5 children/students/seniors, $45 Flix-Tix (good for 10 admissions).

Urgh! A Music War



***Urgh! A Music War* (1981)** *D: Derek Burbidge. (NR, 96 min.)* **Music Monday.** A great opportunity to catch a 35mm-print screening of this cult performance relic from the punk/new wave scene. Thirty-two bands play – among them XTC, the Police, Oingo Boingo, Joan Jett, Devo, the Dead Kennedys, and the Go-Gos. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, Sunday, 9:45pm; $2.

Also Playing

***Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com.**

CARS ★★★ Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

CLICK ★½ Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA ★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, CM Barton Creek, Gateway, Metropolitan, Westgate

AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH ★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor

NACHO LIBRE★★½ Metropolitan

OVER THE HEDGE ★★½ Millennium

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THURSDAY 03

***A Scanner Darkly* Extravaganza (2006)** *D: Richard Linklater; with Keanu Reeves, Robert Downey Jr., Woody Harrelson, Winona Ryder, Rory Cochrane. (R, 100 min.)* **Movies & Music.** This special screening of Linklater's latest will be preceded by a half-hour concert by the film's music composer, Graham Reynolds, who will perform a suite of themes from the movie. See **austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Issue/story?oid=oid%3A384135** for more about Reynolds and **www.originalalamo.com** for reservations. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 7pm; $16.

***Destroy All Monsters* (1968)** *D: Ishiro Honda; with Jun Tazaki, Yukiko Kobayashi, Akira Kubo. (G, 88 min.)* **Summer Movie Camp.** Japanese monsters – including Godzilla, Rodan, and Mothra – run amok. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 1pm; free.

***Favela Rising* (2005)** *D: Jeff Zimbalist and Matt Mochary. (NR, 80 min.)* Anderson Sa, a former child of the slums of Rio de Janeiro and a musician gifted with a powerful voice and keen intellect, has successfully used Afro-Reggae to unite the people of the favelas on all sides of the law. Zimbalist and Mochary's eye-opening film documents Sa's rise with gritty, powerful grace, interviewing not just the musician-cum-miracle-worker, but also the embattled citizenry. DJ Trey Lopez will play a set of Brazilian funk and hip-hop before the film on Thursday only. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm.

Forbidden Animation *D: Various. (NR)* If you're needing a jolt to shake you out of those "nothing ever changes" blues, then this program of politically incorrect cartoons from previous decades ought to do the trick. Not only can you no longer get away with creating stuff this ethnically, racially, and sexually offensive, but the state of our collective-consciousness-raising over the last years has created a world where few people might even have the desire to try. Blacks, Japanese, and women took a beating in terms of stereotyping and name-calling during the golden age of cartoons, and this program promises to "put a dent in our jaded sensibilities." (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:30pm.

***Guardian of Hell* (1980)** *D: Bruno Mattei; with Franca Stoppi, Carlo De Mejo, Francesca Carmeno, Susan Forget. (R, 88 min.)* **Terror Thursday.** The devil made them do it. Nuns in a convent lust after the abbot. Cloister carnage ensues. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

***One, Two, Three* (1961)** *D: Billy Wilder; with Pamela Tiffin, Horst Buchholz, Arlene Francis, James Cagney. (NR, 108 min.)* **Summer Film Classics.** Present Billy Wilder with the Cold War and the Berlin Wall, and his comedic sensibilities turn the whole diplomatic nightmare into a take-no-prisoners assault on the funny bone. In his last screen performance until *Ragtime*, Cagney stars in this rapid-fire comedy about a Coca-Cola executive in Germany who looks after the boss' teenage American daughter, who elopes with an East German radical. (Double bill: *The Apartment*) (*) @Paramount, 7pm; $7 adults, $5 children/students/seniors; $45 Flix-Tix book (10 admissions).

***Slam Planet* (2006)** *D: Kyle Fuller and Mike Henry.* **National Poetry Slam.** In this documentary, rival poets from Austin and New York City prepare for the 2004 National Poetry Slam in St. Louis, Mo. The film was the runner-up for the Lone Star States Audience Award at the 2006 SXSW. For more info on the locally hosted National Poetry Slam, see **www.nps2006.com**, Community Listings (p.66), and p.38 of this week's Arts section. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 10:15pm.

***The Apartment* (1960)** *D: Billy Wilder; with Jack Lemmon, Shirley MacLaine, Fred MacMurray, Ray Walston, Edie Adams. (NR, 125 min.)* **Summer Film Classics.** This essential Wilder film smoothly combines trenchant social observation with hilarious comedy. Lemmon plays a company man who tries to climb the corporate ladder by loaning out his bachelor pad to illicitly trysting higher-ups. As usual, office politics makes for some strange bedfellows. (Double bill: *One Two Three*) (*) @Paramount, 9:15pm; $7 adults, $5 children/students/seniors; $45 Flix-Tix book (10 admissions).

SPACES

All Dressed Up in White *D: Various.* **Women & Their Work.** Film, video, and multimedia artists Vicky Boone, Leslie Belt, Julie Hanus, Diane Zander Mason, Marianela Vega Oroza, Shannon Silva, Karen Skloss, and Cauleen Smith explore the dimensions of marriage. @Women & Their Work, 6pm; free.

FRIDAY 04

***Anthony Kaun Hai?* (2006)** *D: Raj Kaushal; with Sanjay Dutt, Anusha Dhandekar, Gulshan Grover, Minissha Lamba, Arshad Warsi, Raghuvir Yadav.* A new Bollywood comic thriller about a sophisticated, ruthless contract killer. @Tinseltown South, 9:45pm.

***Destroy All Monsters* (1968)** @Alamo Drafthouse South, 1pm; free. (See Thu., 08/03)

***Mallrats* (1995)** *D: Kevin Smith; with Shannen Doherty, Jeremy London, Jason Lee, Claire Forlani, Ben Affleck, Jason Mewes, Smith. (R, 97 min.)* In his second film, Kevin Smith's jilted heroes assuage their sorrows at the mall. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 12mid.

***One, Two, Three* (1961)** @Paramount, 9:40pm; $7 adults, $5 children/students/seniors; $45 Flix-Tix book (10 admissions). (See Thu., 08/03)

***Point Break* (1991)** *D: Kathryn Bigelow; with Patrick Swayze, Keanu Reeves, Gary Busey, Lori Petty, John G. McGinley, James LeGros. (R, 120 min.)* **Sinus Show.** Bigelow stages the film's action sequences with a brutal efficiency (they almost redeem the movie), but she can't keep the increasingly silly script about an FBI agent who's undercover as a surfer in check. The Sinus Show eats stuff like this for breakfast. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7, 9:45.

***The Apartment* (1960)** @Paramount, 7pm; $7 adults, $5 children/students/seniors; $45 Flix-Tix book (10 admissions). (See Thu., 08/03)

Videoke Act out scenes from various movies and win prizes. See **www.originalalamo.com** for details. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

SPACES

***Magnolia* (1999)** *D: Paul Thomas Anderson; with Jason Robards, Tom Cruise, Julianne Moore, Melora Walters, Melinda Dillon, Philip Baker Hall, William H. Macy, Michael Bowen, Jeremy Blackman, Philip Seymour Hoffman, John C. Reilly, Emmanuel Johnson. (R, 188 min.)* **I Luv Video.** Sprawling, meaning-laden spectacle from the director of *Boogie Nights*. (*) @Austin Java Cafe & Bar (1608 Barton Springs Rd.), 8pm; free.

What Now, Skipper? **AV Geeks Boat Party.** Educational boat-safety films on an actual boat. See **www.originalalamo.com** for info and reservations. @Beach Front Boat Rentals, 6:30pm.

SATURDAY 05

***Anthony Kaun Hai?* (2006)** @Tinseltown South, 6:30, 9:45. (See Fri., 08/04)

***Godavari* (2006)** *D: Sekhar Kammula; with Sumanth, Kamalinee Mukherjee, Neetu Chandra, Kamal Kamaraju, Tanikella Bharani.* New Telugu-language film is a love story filmed almost entirely on a boat on the Godavari River. No English subtitles. @Tinseltown South, 3:30pm.

***It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World* (1963)** *D: Stanley Kramer; with Milton Berle, Sid Caesar, Buddy Hackett, Ethel Merman, Mickey Rooney, Phil Silvers, Terry-Thomas, Spencer Tracy, Jonathan Winters, Edie Adams, Jimmy Durante, Dick Shawn, Don Knotts, Peter Falk, Eddie "Rochester" Anderson, William Demarest, the Three Stooges. (G, 197 min.)* **Summer Film Classics.** Featuring a powerhouse array of the top comic actors of the time, *Mad World* packs in a lot of laughs in its three-hour-plus running time. The story is one big chase-plot, with greedy participants racing one another to find a cache of stolen money under a mysterious "big W." (*) @Paramount, 7:30pm; $7.50 adults ($6.50 before 6pm), $5.50 children/students/seniors, $45 Flix-Tix (good for 10 admissions).

***Mallrats* (1995)** @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 12mid. (See Fri., 08/04)

***Playtime* (1967)** See p.82.

***Point Break* (1991)** @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7, 9:45. (See Fri., 08/04)

***The Rocky Horror Picture Show* (1975)** *D: Jim Sharman; with Richard O'Brien, Barry Bostwick, Susan Sarandon, Tim Curry. (R, 95 min.)* Austin *Rocky Horror* fans have been dressing up and doing the "Time Warp" thing live for 28 years straight. For more info, see **www.austinrocky.org**. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

SPACES

***Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (2005)** *D: Tim Burton; with Johnny Depp, Freddie Highmore, David Kelly, Deep Roy, Helena Bonham Carter, Noah Taylor, Annasophia Robb, Philip Wiegratz, Jordon Fry, Julia Winter, Missi Pyle, James Fox, Christopher Lee. (PG, 120 min.)* **Splash Party Movie Night.** Splendid, artful, and often sinister live-action verson of Roald Dahl's classic. For more info call 472-8546. (*) @Deep Eddy Pool, 8:30pm; pool entrance fee.

SUNDAY 06

***Anthony Kaun Hai?* (2006)** @Tinseltown South, 6:30, 9:45. (See Fri., 08/04)

***Godavari* (2006)** @Tinseltown South, 3:30pm. (See Sat., 08/05)

***It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World* (1963)** @Paramount, 3pm; $7.50 adults ($6.50 before 6pm), $5.50 children/students/seniors, $45 Flix-Tix (good for 10 admissions). (See Sat., 08/05)

***Playtime* (1967)** @Paramount, 7:30pm; $7 adults ($6 before 6pm), $5 children/students/seniors, $45 Flix-Tix (good for 10 admissions). (See Sat., 08/05)

Take a Chance on Me: The ABBA Sing-Along A gathering of the best ABBA music videos and notable movie and TV appearances. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

The Modern Housewife **AV Geeks.** A collection of educational films repurposed for entertainment. These shorts look at the problems of the mid-20th-century housewife, as well as the panaceas of modern technology and consumer products. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm.

***Urgh! A Music War* (1981)** See p.82.

MONDAY 07

***Anthony Kaun Hai?* (2006)** @Tinseltown South, 6:30, 9:45. (See Fri., 08/04)

***Bring Me the Head of Alfredo Garcia* (1974)** See p.82.

***Slam Planet* (2006)** @Alamo Drafthouse South, 10pm. (See Thu., 08/03)

***The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie* (2004)** *D: Stephen Hillenburg; with the voices of Tom Kenny, Rodger Bumpass, Bill Fagerbakke, Alec Baldwin, Scarlett Johansson. (PG, 88 min.)* **Kids Summer Camp.** Nautical nonsense from a highly absorbent, animated hero. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 1pm; free.

SPACES

Animé Movie Monday Every Monday night. For more info, see **www.ventanadelsoul.org**. @Ventana del Soul (1834 E. Oltorf), 7:30pm.

***Magnolia* (1999)** @Java Lounge at Austin Java, 8pm; free. (See Fri., 08/04)

***V for Vendetta* (2006)** *D: James McTeigue; with Natalie Portman, Hugo Weaving, Stephen Rea, John Hurt, Roger Allam, Stephen Fry, Tim Piggott-Smith. (R, 132 min.)* This thinking-person's action film is a futuristic slice of pop-culture agitprop. (*) @Cafe Mundi, 8:30pm; @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm; free.

TUESDAY 08

***Bring Me the Head of Alfredo Garcia* (1974)** @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm. (See Mon., 08/07)

***Mister Roberts* (1955)** See p.80.

***Slam Planet* (2006)** @Alamo Drafthouse South, 10pm. (See Thu., 08/03)

***The Legend of Fong Sai-Yuk* (1993)** *D: Corey Yuen; with Jet Li, Josephine Siao, Sibelle Hu, Michele Reis. (R, 100 min.)* This movie about the legendary Chinese folk hero Fong Sai-Yuk dazzles with breathtakingly choreographed fight scenes, including one showstopper featuring a full battle waged atop the heads and shoulders of an awestruck crowd of gawkers. – *Marc Savlov* (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

***The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie* (2004)** @Alamo Drafthouse South, 1pm; free. (See Mon., 08/07)

***Twelve Angry Men* (1957)** *D: Sidney Lumet; with Henry Fonda, Lee J. Cobb, Ed Begley, E.G. Marshall, Jack Klugman. (NR, 95 min.)* **Summer Film Classics.** An American classic and a courtroom gem. Fonda is cast as a lone dissenting juror, who argues passionately to convince his fellow jurors to not convict. (Double bill: *Mister Roberts*) @Paramount, 9:30pm; $7 adults ($6 before 6pm), $5 children/students/seniors, $45 Flix-Tix (good for 10 admissions).

SPACES

Documentaries and Short Films Screenings on the back patio every Tuesday. @Java Lounge at Austin Java, 8pm; free.

***Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb* (1964)** *D: Stanley Kubrick; with Peter Sellers, George C. Scott, Slim Pickens, Sterling Hayden, Kennan Wynn, James Earl Jones. (NR, 93 min.)* **Waterloo Video.** More lethal than a nuclear-waste dump, Kubrick's komedy at least kills us with laughter. It's one of the greatest – and undoubtedly the most hilarious – anti-war statements ever put to film. See it before the world ends. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm; free.

WEDNESDAY 09

Blanks on a Blank: Group A Local filmmakers who have registered a team for the Alamo's one-and-only Blanks on a Blank contest will have their films screened. See **www.originalalamo.com** for complete description of contest. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

***Bring Me the Head of Alfredo Garcia* (1974)** @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm. (See Mon., 08/07)

***Bullitt* (1968)** *D: Peter Yates; with Steve McQueen, Robert Vaughn, Jacqueline Bisset, Robert Duvall, Don Gordon, Norman Fell, Vic Tayback. (PG,*

IMAX Theatre

For ticket prices, call 936-IMAX or 936-TSHM, or see **www.thestoryoftexas.com**. See showtimes for dates and times

***Texas: The Big Picture* (2003)** *D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.)* Panoramic shots of Texas grace the screen as Texas is shown to be a land capable of growing everything from grapefruit to microchips.

***Superman Returns*: An IMAX 3D Experience (2006)** See p.82.

***Ride Around the World: A Cowboy Adventure* (2006)** *D: Harry Lynch. (NR, 40 min.)* The history of horse-and-cowboy culture in the West is traced back 1,500 years in this big-screen documentary. Beginning in the Moroccan desert and spreading to Spain, from which it traveled the ocean with the conquistadors to Mexico, the vaqueros and their cowboy way of life migrated south to Argentina and Chile and north to Texas and up to British Columbia. Made by local filmmakers, the film also features music by Brian Satterwhite.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The Austin Chronicle is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Aug. 18 issue is Monday, Aug. 7**. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork.

Send submissions to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail.

Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): **specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com**; Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): **calendar@austinchronicle.com**.

Offscreen

Blanks on a Blank Contest The question is: Who can concoct the best short analog to the imminent *Snakes on a Plane* blockbuster? The answer could be *you*, nascent filmmaker, netting you minor fortune and a certain twisted sort of fame. Once you register (online), you'll be assigned an animal/vehicle combo with which to conjure 2-5 minutes of psychotronic goodness. Brought to you, naturally, by the Alamo Drafthouse. Registration deadline: *Thu., Aug. 3. Alamo Drafthouse South, 1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320.* **www.blanksonablank.com**.

Club de Ville Fall Film Series Submit your shorts (no longer than 15 minutes), in DVD or VHS formats, any genre, no submission fee. Selected films will show at Club de Ville, with cash prizes for audience favorites. Include a phone number, e-mail, a brief bio, and a statement asserting ownership of your film. **Do it now**. Deliver to: *Club de Ville, 900 Red River, 457-0900.* **www.myspace.com/clubdeville**.

Flicker Film Festival: Call for Submissions Filmmakers of all ages, experience, and expertise are welcome to send in their latest projects for the 27th Flicker Film Festival. There's no submission fee, and entries can be screened in the following formats: DVD, VHS, 16mm prints, 35mm prints, or mini DV transfers. All films must originate on Super 8, 8mm, 16mm, or 35mm and be shorter than 15 minutes. See their Web site for details. Deadline: *Aug. 9*. **www.flickeraustin.com**.

Supersuckers Video Contest The Supersuckers, that fine, fine band, entreat you to create a video based on their song "Paid." They're offering $100 (and likely much media exposure) to the winning director. See their Web site for details. Deadline: *Sept. 17*. **www.supersuckers.com**.

The Alamo's Blockbuster Video Quiz Show The good people of the Original Alamo Drafthouse are, like other thinking folk, fed up with the uninspired trivia questions typically run onscreen before movies. Which is why they'll be spiking the summertime preshows at their Village and South Lamar venues with quizzes based on the capers they've cut in concert with each film. *Alamo Drafthouse South, 1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320.* **www.originalalamo.com**.

The Austin Movie Show: Film Tournament 3.0 Submit your short films to the Austin Movie Show, for possible screening on local access TV at 6-8pm on Sunday nights, with a live screening to follow. Drama, comedy, docs – you name it. For submission details, check their Web site. **www.austinmovieshow.com**.

The OUTer Gay and Lesbian SciFi / Fantasy Film Festival: Call for Entries Telecommunication Films Across the Universe seeks feature-length films, short films, videos, documentaries, mockumentaries, animations, and/or trailers about gay, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgendered in the genre of science fiction, fantasy, or horror. DVD and VHS formats accepted. See their Web site for details. Deadline: *Sept. 1*. Submit to: *OUTer Film Fest, PO Box 40725, Austin, Texas, 78704. 656-2677.* **www.outerfilmfest.com**.

113 min.) **Summer Film Classics.** One of the cinema's very best car-chase sequences – set amid the hilly, windy San Francisco streets – caps this quintessential Steve McQueen policier. (Double bill: *Dirty Harry*) (*) @Paramount, 9:10pm; $7 adults ($6 before 6pm), $5 children/students/seniors, $45 Flix-Tix (good for 10 admissions).

***By the People* (2006)** *D: Malindi Fickle. (NR, 89 min.)* A look at who and what it takes to put on an American election becomes a rallying cry against apathy. This behind-the-scenes documentary of the 2004 presidential election as it unfolds in Indianapolis – a blue city inside a longtime red state. See **www.bythepeople-themovie.com** for more info. @Dobie, 5pm.

***Dirty Harry* (1971)** *D: Don Siegel; with Clint Eastwood, Harry Guardino, Reni Santoni, John Larch, Andy Robinson. (R, 102 min.)* **Summer Film Classics.** Are you feeling lucky, punk? Then head on down for this double bill (with *Bullitt*) of San Francisco cop movies. It's Eastwood and McQueen at their most archetypal. (Double bill: *Bullitt*) (*) @Paramount, 7pm; $7 adults ($6 before 6pm), $5 children/students/seniors, $45 Flix-Tix (good for 10 admissions).

***The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie* (2004)** @Alamo Drafthouse South, 1pm; free. (See Mon., 08/07)

***The Wild Pussycat* (1968)** *D: Dimis Dadiras; with Gisela Dali, Paul Dillon, Jonathan Drake, Kathy Impro. (R, 88 min.)* **Weird Wednesday.** Woman investigating her sister's death goes toe-to-toe with a sadistic pimp. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

SPACES

***Live and Let Die* (1973)** *D: Guy Hamilton; with Roger Moore, Yaphet Kotto, Jane Seymour. (PG, 121 min.)* A James Bond classic. @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm; free.

***Monty Python and the Holy Grail* (1975)** *D: Terry Gilliam and Terry Jones; with Gilliam, Jones, Graham Chapman, John Cleese, Eric Idle, Michael Palin. (PG, 90 min.)* **Cult Classics.** In their second feature film, the wacky Brits do a number on Arthurian legend and the Middle Ages. (*) @Central Market North, 9pm; free.

Weird World **Nueva Onda Movie Night.** Six short weird films will screen. Included are Steve Collins short, "Gretchen and the Night Danger," from which his LAIFF award-winning feature was derived. Also screening are Collins' "The Ballad of Courtney & James," Pritesh Chheda's "The Package," "Debt Consolidated," "Saturday Afternoon Fever," and John Bryant's "Oh My God." For full descriptions see **www.nuevaaustin.com/movies.htm** or p.55 of this week's Screens section. (*) @Nueva Onda, 8pm; free.

THURSDAY 10

Beastie Boys Rap-Along A gathering of the best music videos, live concert performances, and crazy props. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

Blanks on a Blank: Group B Local filmmakers who have registered a team for the Alamo's one-and-only Blanks on a Blank contest will have their films screened. See **www.originalalamo.com** for complete description of contest. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm.

***Bullitt* (1968)** @Paramount, 7pm; $7 adults ($6 before 6pm), $5 children/students/seniors, $45 Flix-Tix (good for 10 admissions). (See Wed., 08/09)

***By the People* (2006)** @Dobie, 5pm. (See Wed., 08/09)

***Dirty Harry* (1971)** @Paramount, 9:20pm; $7 adults ($6 before 6pm), $5 children/students/seniors, $45 Flix-Tix (good for 10 admissions). (See Wed., 08/09)

***Evils of the Night* (1985)** *D: Mardi Rustam; with Aldo Ray, Neville Brand, Tina Louise, John Carradine, Julie Newmar. (R, 84 min.)* **Terror Thursday.** Auto mechanics nab sex-hungry teens and bring them to a rural hospital run by aliens, who are in need of human blood. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

***The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie* (2004)** @Alamo Drafthouse South, 1pm; free. (See Mon., 08/07)

SPACES

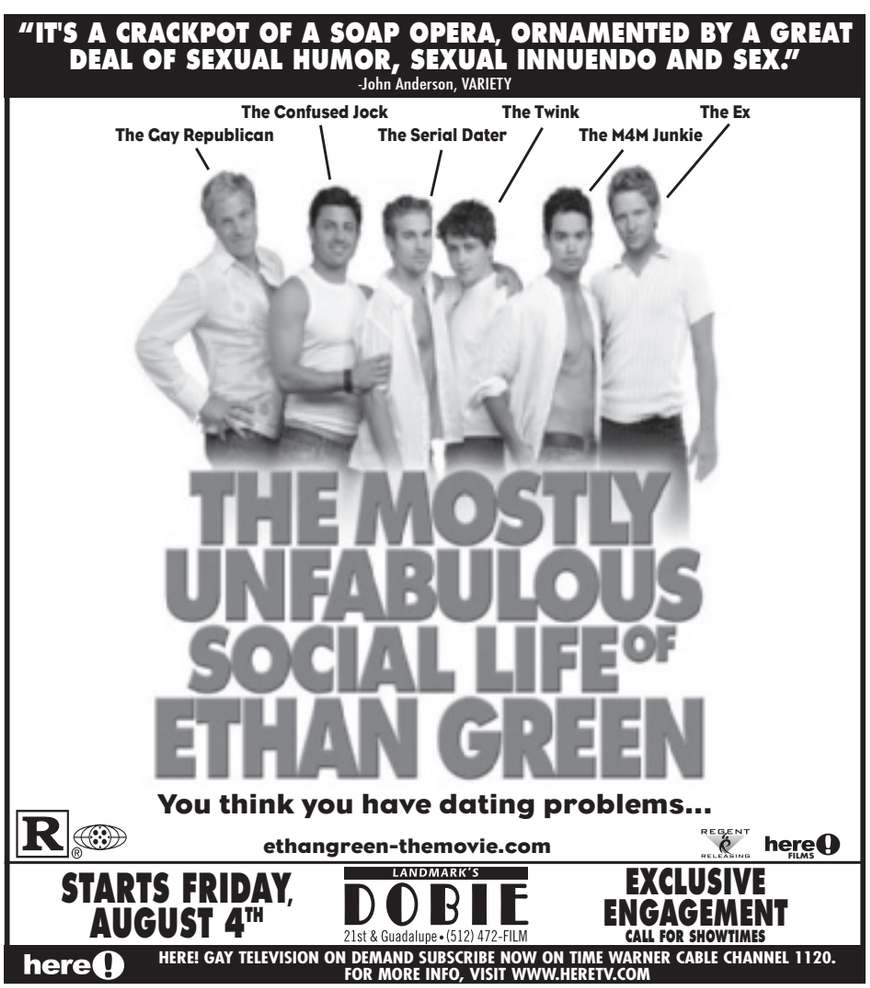
***Ghostbusters* (1984)** *D: Ivan Reitman; with Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd, Harold Ramis, Sigourney Weaver, Rick Moranis, Annie Potts, Ernie Hudson. (PG, 107 min.)* **Jo's Rock N Reel.** There is no Dana, only Zuul. (*) @Jo's Hot Coffee, 7pm; free; Midori Umi at 7pm; film at sundown.

***The Wild One* (1954)** *D: Laslo Benedek; with Marlon Brando, Mary Murphy, Lee Marvin, Jerry Paris. (NR, 79 min.)* **American Screen Legends.** This is the original biker movie. When this motorcycle gang terrorizes a sleepy town, gangleader Marlon Brando is asked by a citizen, "What are you rebelling against?" and famously responds, "What've you got?" (*) @The Glenn at the Backyard, 8:45pm; free.

Check film listings online for full-length reviews, up-to-date showtimes, archives, and more!

austinchronicle.com/film





music listings

The Channel, Golden Bear

FLAMINGO CANTINA, FRIDAY 4

When was the last time you pulled out your flower-print polyester button-up? A local bill high on life and down with depression culminates with this C-Side Records showcase, featuring Austin sevenpiece the Channel and their debut double LP, *Tales From the Two Hill Heart/ Sibylline Machine*. The Channel's alter ego, Golden Bear, warms up with their new eponymous debut, chock-full of guest appearances (Lloyd Maines, Jason Morales, Black Angels, Voxtrot) and summer grooves. Driftin' Luke & His Many Personalities open. Easy, breezy, and beautiful. *– Darcie Stevens*


Golden Bear

Ghostland Observatory, Pong, Lions

EMO'S, SATURDAY 5

A (half-)local summer jam has heroically vanquished promiscuous girls and pussycat dolls alike: "Ghostface Observatory," a genius mash-up of Ghostface Killah's "Be Easy" and Ghostland Observatory's "Midnight Voyage" by Chris Rose of Austin's Car Stereo (Wars). Hear it at **www.myspace.com/carstereowars**, and the source material Saturday, when GO block-rocks outdoors after a midnight voyage from Lollapalooza in Chicago. Pong and Lions traffic in retro-futurisms of the space-disco and FM-revival varieties, while Say Hi to Your Mom and Prom Nite indie up the inside. *– Christopher Gray*

Paul Minor, Chili Cold Blood

RUTA MAYA, SATURDAY 5

Paul Minor may have booked your band into the Hole in the Wall, ran sound at the show, shared the bill in one of his multiple bands, and even sang at your wedding, but not until this year did he release a solo album. He's corrected this oversight with the flickering *Shadow Figure*, a reflective reminder that some things are worth waiting for. Minor leads off his own CD release at 9:30pm, before Summer Wardrobe's autumnal guitar reveries and Chili Cold Blood's whiskey-craving blues. *– Christopher Gray*


Paul Minor

IN-STORES

Friday: **Manager's Choice**, **Chadd Thomas & the Crazy Kings**, **Herman the German**, Cheapo Discs, 5pm; **Leatherbag & the Cows** CD Release, End of an Ear, 6pm

Saturday: **Golden Bear** CD Release, End of an Ear, 6pm

Sunday: **Ghetto Princess**, **Kimberly Freeman**, **I Am Her**, Snake Eyes Vinyl, 5pm

Tuesday: **Reckless Kelly**, Waterloo Records, 5pm; **Triumph of Gnomes**, **Bodhisattva**, **Exit the King**, Snake Eyes Vinyl, 7pm

Wednesday: **Chris McCaughan**, **Madeline**, the **Door-Keys**, **Steve Arceri**, the **Touched**, **Perennial Tuesday**, MonkeyWrench Books, 8pm

Thursday: **Peligro Social**, **Repercussions**, Sound on Sound Records, 6pm

Scott H. Biram CD Release

CONTINENTAL CLUB, FRIDAY 4

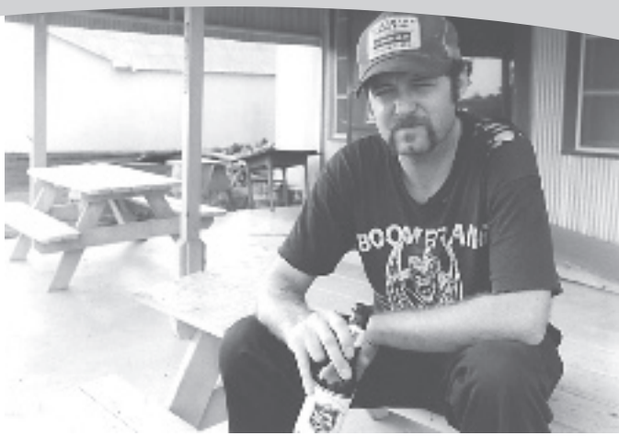
Where in the world is Scott H. Biram?

"Missouri somewhere, on the way from Memphis to Saint Louis," answers the itinerant one-man band, currently preaching the hellacious gospel of latest Bloodshot release, *Graveyard Shift,* on the nation's highways and byways with friend U.S. Justin of Chattanooga, Tenn., riding shotgun. Biram, on one of his six 2006 U.S. tours, takes it all in stride. "We ran over an American flag the other day in Indiana, right in the middle of the road," he says. "If that ain't freedom, I don't know what is." Further Biram wisdom for weathering the road:

FIGHTING BOREDOM: "We just listen to lots of music and make up all kinds of crazy things. We spot fake celebrities everywhere we go, like, 'Hey, that guy looks like Gary Coleman.'"

NOURISHMENT: "Waffle House [and] Cracker Barrel are always good. Wendy's and Taco Bell and Subway a little bit too much on this tour. We made a vow not to eat at McDonald's the rest of the tour. Gotta keep things moving."

STAYING IN TOUCH: "We've been talking on the CB a lot. Anytime the traffic gets backed up we turn on the CB and start conversing. One guy said he thought there were alien yo-yos holding up the traffic yesterday."



FUEL PRICES: "It sucks, but I do well enough that it's not too big of a problem. I really hope this biodiesel thing takes off. My next van is going to be diesel."

ACCOMMODATIONS: "I get hooked up on the Internet hotel booking before I even leave for tour. We've been getting 3½-star hotels for half price. I figure I'm on the road so much that instead of sleeping on people's couches and crappy motels and coming home with a little extra money, I'd rather just live good on the road and get the rest I need." *– Christopher Gray*

Biram goes on at 10pm and the Weary Boys headline at midnight.

Boot Camp Clik EMO'S LOUNGE, SUNDAY 6

Remember the days when hardcore rappers would routinely get down to acoustic stand-up bass? The Boot Camp Clik helped make moody jazz loops the blunt-induced standard for New York's early-Nineties retort to West Coast gangsta rap. Twelve years since Black Moon and Smif-N-Wessun first hit up Austin by way of Red River's Kilamanjaro, the lyrical intensity of MCs so far gone into cerebral zones of clouded focus remains intact. Expect Buckshot, Tek, Steele, Heltah Skeltah, and OGC to get you open and then some. *– Robert Gabriel*

Alex Dupree & the Trapdoor Band

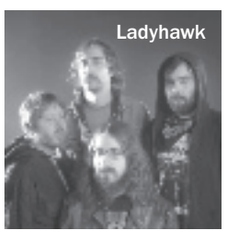
THE PEACOCK, SUNDAY 6

Local troubador Alex Dupree's live shows tend to be magnetically charged, drawing in players and singers while others drop out (hence the "trapdoor" in the name, get it?), but what he does guarantee are affirming, often rocking tales of travel and romance and the occasional death ballad. Joining them is Nashville's CJ Boyd Sexxxtet, a group of cellophiles who apparently really love being naked and playing classical music. Who doesn't? Local singer/guitarist Dana Falconberry pipes up first. *– Audra Schroeder*

Ladyhawk, the Coke Dares

EMO'S, TUESDAY 8

Vancouver quartet Ladyhawk credit a spiritual adviser, Steve Hubert, in the liner notes for its self-titled Jagjaguwar debut. From the sound of it, Hubert encourages lead singer Duffy Driedieger to find his inner Jim James (My Morning Jacket) and Doug Martsch (Built to Spill), to balance somber balladry with his guitar-god capabilities. Apparently, he also has a thing for cheap beer, reverb, and adolescent desperation. The result is one of the best debut records of 2006. Bloomington, Ind., trio the Coke Dares open, along with Zykos' Mike Booher and Catherine Davis. *– Austin Powell*


Ladyhawk

Eels LA ZONA ROSA, WEDNESDAY 9

Mark Oliver Everett, or "E" in his Eels persona, has not had a fantastic life. He's lost various family members to cancer and suicide, and the major part of his musical catalog is dedicated to processing these losses. The most recent entry is *Blinking Lights and Other Revelations* (Vagrant), last year's sprawling double album. The 33 songs represent eight years of Everett's creative work, and it's a gorgeous and heartbreaking collection that runs the gamut and even boasts a Tom Waits cameo. Get there on time, there's no opening act. *– Melanie Haupt*

Bloc Party, J Versus K STUBB'S, THURSDAY 10

It's been almost a year since the South London quartet graced the ACL Festival stage, but since then, the collective has released a well-received remix version of its outstanding debut, *Silent Alarm* (Vice). Additionally, the group has taken advantage of its extensive summer tour to air out some new material. What better way to kick off Austin's own sweltering, late-summer block party than with sweaty, smart, working-class art punk? Fort Worth's own art-rockers J Versus K open. *– Melanie Haupt*

Soundcheck BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

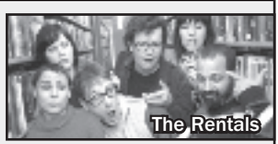
LADIES HIP-HOP NIGHT
Ruta Maya, Friday 4
Attitude and beat, with locals Lady Legacy, Perseph One, DJ Pow, Mello, and more.

JAMES HAND
Broken Spoke, Friday 4
The truth, and chicken-fried steak, will set you free.

GREEN POTATO VENTURES PARTY
Gallery Lombardi, Saturday 5
Local booking and local rocking from Tacks, the Boy Disaster; the Lemurs; Cue; Economy; and the Stay Gold DJs.

LINES OF FLIGHT
Little City, Saturday 5
A night of Texas improv with percussionist Chris Cogburn, saxophonist Alex Coke, and Houston trombonist Brian Allen.

DIRTY ON PURPOSE
Stubb's, Tuesday 8
Brooklyn quartet craft the jangle from on high with latest *Hallelujah Sirens*. Locals Las Damas and Loxsly open.


The Rentals

THE ERGS, HUNCHBACK
Beerland, Wednesday 9
New Jersey punks dork out on Queers records, Hunchback feeds the Jesus Lizard, and locals the Ends and the Sweethearts break bottles and hearts.

HARRY & THE POTTERS
Wooldridge Square Park, Thursday 10
A duo that writes songs all about Harry Potter. J.K. Rowling, what have you done? (Make sure to request "Cornelius Fudge Is an Ass.")

OZMA, THE RENTALS
Emo's, Thursday 10
The summer of 1995 returns, sans sweater vests. Cruiserweight opens.

POMPEII
Whisky Bar, Thursday 10
Locals erupt with latest *Assembly*.

live music VENUES ▸ p.90
CLUB LISTINGS + roadshows ▸ p.92

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& the Continental Two
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CHARLIE ROBISON
-ACOUSTIC TRIO-
9PM **ROBYN LUDWICK**

107.1 KGSR
Front Gate Tickets

SAT. 8/5 @ 8PM ($5)

JERRY GARCIA'S BIRTHDAY
10:45PM FLOUNDER WITHOUT EYES,
9:30PM GREEN MOUNTAIN GRASS,
8PM LARRY



SUN. 8/6 @ 11AM NO COVER
Gospel Brunch
GOSPEL SILVERTONES

WED. 8/9 @ 6PM $5 DONATION
Thanksgiving Food Drive with
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UP COMING ANNIVERSARY SHOWS



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BRANDON RHYDER & JOHNNY GIMBLE
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8:30PM



SAT. 8/12 @ 10PM -
$12 ADV./$15 DOOR/$25 RESERVED
Front Gate Tickets

COMMANDER CODY & THE LOST PLANET AIRMEN
9PM **CAROLYN WONDERLAND**

SAT. 8/19 - *Unveiling of the Armadillo World Headquarters Memorial*
(at original location - next door)
(THREADGILL'S YARD)
10PM **SHIVA'S HEADBAND** 8PM **CRYSTAL IMAGE**

FRI. 8/18 - SARA HICKMAN
WED. 8/23 - SOUTH AUSTIN JUG BAND
FRI. 8/25 - MONTE MONTGOMERY
SAT. 8/26 - JIMMY LAFAVE

COMING SOON.....



9/1 & 9/13 -
BOB SCHNEIDER'S TEXAS BLUE GRASS MASSACRE,
9/2 - MINGO FISHTRAP,
9/3 - **LEON RUSSELL,**
9/9 - JAMES MCMURTRY,
9/15 - OLIVER MTUKUDZI & THE BLACK SPIRITS,
9/16 - THE BOB SCHNEIDER SHOW W/ THE HUDSONS,
10/6 - ELIZA GILKYSON, 10/14 - GRUPO FANTASMA

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Thur ★ Aug 3 8:30 pm
SHAKE RUSSELL BAND

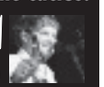
Fri ★ Aug 4
GLASS EYE  **&**

ETHAN AZARIAN

Sat ★ Aug 5 cd release & birthday soiree!
JELLYDOTS 
songs of 1986 ★ MAX TOLLESON ★ STEVE ARCERI ★ YATSUZAKI ★ 8pm ★ free!

Mon ★ Aug 8 free show! 8pm

PORTER DAVIS

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RANDY ROGERS 

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Thur ★ Aug 9 an evening with
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Fri ★ Aug 10 the one & only! 8:30pm
AUSTIN LOUNGE LIZARDS

Sat ★ Aug 11 austin's own

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Tue ★ Aug 14

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Fri ★ Aug 25

STEVE FORBERT


Sat ★ Aug 26

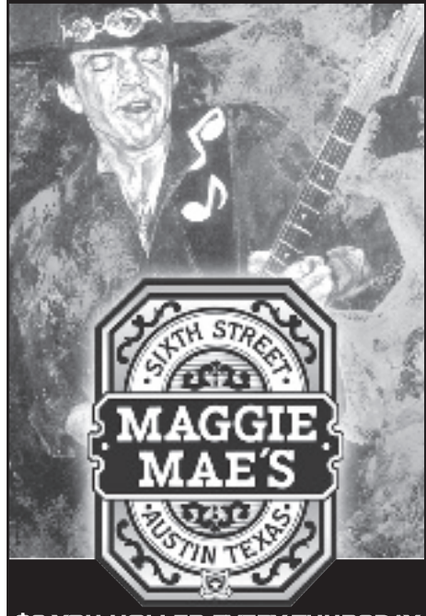
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IAN MOORE

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		09/21 ★	CHERYL WHEELER
8/30 ★	ABIGAIL WASHBURN	10/04 ★	ALISDAIR FRASER
9/05 ★	SMOG	10/12 ★	CHRIS SMITHER
9/06 ★	CARRIE RODRIGUEZ	10/14 ★	KEVIN WELCH
9/16 ★	JOHN JORGENSON QUINTET	10/19 ★	FRED EAGLESMITH

The Cactus is located inside the Texas Union. Happy Hour 4-7pm, Monday-Friday. Tickets @ the door & all shows @ 9pm unless otherwise noted. 23rd & Guadalupe. 475-6515. www.utexas.edu/student/txunion/ae/cactus



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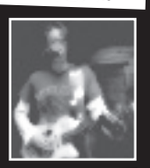
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BENEATH THE SKY
FOR ALICE
JOSEPHINE'S A KILLER

THURSDAY-AUGUST 10
ANTHONY DE LOS SANTOS
HOLLYWOOD COLE
HEADS UP
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FRIDAY-AUGUST 11
BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY
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we 9 The Ergs, The Ends, Hunchback, Sweethearts
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POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL, 22308 Hwy. 71 W., Spicewood, 512/264-0318
POODLE DOG LOUNGE, 6507 Burnet Rd., 465-9468
THE PUB, 1826 Mays, Round Rock, 512/246-8007
RACK DADDY'S, 4410 E. Riverside, 389-1577
RADISSON, 111 E. Cesar Chavez, 478-9611
RAGGEDY ANNE'S, 2113 Wells Branch Pkwy., 251-9647
RAIN ON 4TH, 217-B W. Fourth, 494-1150
RANCH 616, 616 Nueces, 479-7616
REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE, 13450 Research, 335-5115
RED FEZ, 209-B W. Fifth, 478-5120
RED'S SCOOT INN, 1308 E. Fourth, 320-0004
REDRUM, 401 Sabine, 275-6575
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB, 9901 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 342-7977
RENAISSANCE HOTEL, 9721 Arboretum, 343-2626
RHINOS & JOCKS ROUND ROCK, 2120 N. Mays #100, Round Rock, 512/246-9444
RILEY'S TAVERN, 8894 FM 1102, Hunter, 512/392-3132
RIO GRANDE MEXICAN RESTAURANT, 301 San Jacinto, 476-8300
ROADHOUSE, 1103 Wonder, 218-0813
ROMEO'S, 1500 Barton Springs Rd., 476-1090
ROOFTOP AT HOULIHAN'S, 309 E. Third, 474-5757
ROOM 710, 710 Red River, 476-0997
ROPER'S NIGHTCLUB, 2113 Wells Branch Pkwy, #5000, 990-4991
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE, 11800 Lamar, 835-2414
RUTA MAYA, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637
SAKÉ ON SIXTH, 621 E. Sixth, 478-8788
THE SALT LICK, 18300 FM 1826, Driftwood, 512/858-4959, 888/SALT-LICK
SAM'S TOWN POINT, 2115 Allred, 282-0083
SAN MARCOS RIVER PUB & GRILL, 701 Cheatham St., San Marcos, 512/353-3747
SARADORA'S COFFEEHOUSE AND EMPORIUM, 101 E. Main, Round Rock, 512/310-1200
SATELLITE CAFE, 7101 Hwy. 71 W. Ste. E1, 301-1883
SAXON PUB, 1320 S. Lamar, 448-2552
SHADY GROVE, 1624 Barton Springs Rd., 474-9991
SHENANIGANS, 13233 Pond Springs Rd., 258-9717
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL, 9012 Research Ste. C1, 380-9443
SHOAL CREEK SALOON, 909 N. Lamar, 474-0805
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS, 601-5 E. Whitestone, Cedar Park, 512/260-2060
SHOOTING STARS COFFEE, 6539 N. Lamar, 377-3334
SKI SHORES, 2905 Pierce, 346-5915
SKY LOUNGE, 416 Congress, 477-3151
SNAKE EYES VINYL, 1211 E. Seventh, 220-7019
SOUND ON SOUND, 106 E. North Loop, 371-9980
SOUTH FORTY, 629 W. Ben White, 444-9329
SPEAKEASY, 412 Congress, 476-8017
STARDUST CLUB, 11940 Manchaca, 280-8590
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q, 801 Red River, 480-8341
SÃO PAULO'S, 2809 San Jacinto, 473-9988
TAMBALEO, 302 Bowie, 472-3213
TAVERN ON THE GRUENE, 830 Gruene Rd., Gruene, 866/828-3761
TEXAS 1115, 1115 1/2 Old Bastrop Hwy., 385-3553
TEXAS BAR & GRILL, 14611 Burnet Rd., 255-1300
THINGS CELTIC, 1806 W. 35th, 472-2358
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ, 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL, 2201 College, 443-4200
TRIPLE CROWN, 206 N. Edward Gary, San Marcos, 512/396-2236
TRIUMPH CAFE, 3808 Spicewood Springs, 343-1875
TROPHY'S, 2008 S. Congress, 447-0969
UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 2203 San Antonio St., 476-5321
VICTORY GRILL, 1104 E. 11th, 391-0174
VUE, 416 Congress, Upstairs, 477-3151
THE WATER TANK, 7309 McNeil, 331-9831
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE WEST, 6203 Capital of Texas Hwy. N., 418-9700
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH, 600 N. Lamar, 472-5400
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE, 1106 W. 38th, 451-5245
WATERLOO RECORDS, 600-A N. Lamar, 474-2500
WHISKY BAR, 303 W. Fifth, 481-8599
WHIT HANKS ANTIQUES, 1214 W. Sixth, 478-2101
WOODY'S SOUTH, 321 W. Ben White, 851-9663
WOOLDRIDGE SQUARE PARK, Guadalupe between Ninth & 10th
Y BAR & GRILL, 7720 Hwy. 71 W., 394-0220
Z'TEJAS, 1110 W. Sixth, 478-5355
ZILKER PARK ROCK ISLAND, 2100 Barton Springs Rd., 974-6700


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5) SLAID CLEAVES
Unsung

6) SPOON
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SUNDAY AUGUST 6
PETE RODRIGUEZ
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August 12 - CIENFUEGOS
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club listings

Thu 03

219 WEST Acoustic Jungle (8:00)
311 CLUB 3 Piece Special, Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)
ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH *A Scanner Darkly* w/ Graham Reynolds (7:00)
ALICE'S RESTAURANT Heartwheel, Flying Dollar Band
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Michael Austin & Chris Gage
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier (9:30)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Eric Tessmer
BARCELONA DJ Tats
BEERLAND The Knuckles, Analog Ant, Assacre, the Questions
BENNIGAN'S Chad Hebert (7:00)
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BRENTWOOD TAVERN ZeeGrass
BROWN BAR mr.ripley
CACTUS CAFE Shake Russell
CAFE CAFFEINE Americana Songwriter Night w/ Mark Jungers, Randy Reynolds, Amanda Cunningham (9:00)
CEDAR STREET LC Rocks (9:00)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Texas Renegade
CONTINENTAL CLUB Ryan Bingham, the Conrads, Elizabeth McQueen & the Firebrands (6:30), Gallery: Mike Flanigin's B-3 Trio (7:00, 10:00)
COOL RIVER CAFE Newsboyz
DARWIN'S PUB J.T. Coldfire
THE DETOUR BAR & GRILL Bike Night w/ the Wildcards
THE DIRTY DOG Thursday Spotlight (9:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
EL SOL Y LA LUNA Mary Welch y Los Curanderos (7:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Django's Mustache, Pete Rodriguez Quintet (6:00)
ELYSIUM Manufactura, Helltrash
EMO'S Harda Kast, Panther Zora, Pleasant Valley, Origin, Capitalist Casualties
FADÓ Patrick Fleming Power Duo (10:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA El-B, Dertyberd
THE FOUNDATION Coy West
FREDDIE'S PLACE Ed Jurdi (6:00)
GIDDY UPS Open Mic w/ Ted & Roy (8:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Rosie Flores
GÜERO'S TACO BAR Monsters of the Midway w/ Ruben Ramos (6:30)
HANOVER'S Karaoke
HEADHUNTERS Mike Davis & His Broken-Hearted Band, Meatwood, Best Love in Town
HILL'S CAFE Anthony Eby
HOLE IN THE WALL Alice Spencer & Her Monkey Butlers, Love Buckit, Hoe Slinger, Adrian & the Sickness (8:00)
JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Poetry, Music Open Mic (8:00)
JOHNNY FINS DJ Your Way
JOVITA'S Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)
LA PALAPA NTO's (8:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan & the Bump Band (6:00), Damesviolet (10:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Jared Francis Band, Ricky Stein
MANUEL'S GREAT HILLS Cerronato (6:30)
MOMOS Wesley Lunsford, Consumption Hooks, Francis, Nelo (8:00)
MOTHER'S CAFE Doc Grauzer (6:00)
NAT'S PUB Karaoke w/ Big Jim
THE PARLOR The Heirs, Many Birthdays (8:00)
PLUSH Get Broke! w/ Merrick Brown
THE PUB Karaoke

Acts are chronologically listed. Schedules are subject to change, so please call clubs to confirm lineup. Times are given where known and are PM unless otherwise noted.

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND ARE PRINTED ON A SPACE-AVAILABLE BASIS.

HELLO, CLUBS AND BANDS: Club listings deadline is Monday, 9am, for that week's issue, published on Thursday. Send venue name, address, phone number, acts, and times to: Club Listings, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax 458-6910; phone 454-5766 x159; or e-mail **clubs@austinchronicle.com**.

roadshows

AUGUST

THU 3
the Questions, Beerland
Shake Russell, Cactus Cafe
Ryan Bingham, Continental Club
Helltrash, **Manufactura**, Elysium
Capitalist Casualties, **Origin**, **Harda Kast**, Emo's
Fra Pandolph, **Notes From the Underground**, Room 710

FRI 4
Sons of Hercules, Beerland
Wade Bowen, **Randy Rogers**, Cactus Cafe
Black Math Experiment, Elysium
The Boxing Lesson, Emo's
The Radiators, the Glenn at the Backyard
Jesse Cook, One World Theatre

See **austinchronicle.com** *for complete listings.*

SAT 5
Duncan Sheik, **Vienna Teng**, Antone's
Say Hi to Your Mom, Emo's
The Argives, Flamingo Cantina
Bent Gents, Headhunters
Black Market Hearts, Hole in the Wall
Brian Allen, Little City
Wade Bowen, Nutty Brown Cafe
King James, the Parish
Hammerwhore, RedRum
Whigs, Stubb's Bar-B-Q

SUN 6
Buckshot, **Smif 'n' Wessun**, **Heltah Skeltah**, **Sean Price**, **Global**, **Just Born**, **Resilience**, Emo's
Dale Watson, Ginny's Little Longhorn Saloon
The Tombstones, Headhunters
The CJ Boyd Sexxxtet, the Peacock
Murder Van, Room 710
Kunek, **the Lennings**, Stubb's Bar-B-Q

MON 7
Rebirth Brass Band, Stubb's Bar-B-Q

TUE 8
Ladyhawk, **the Coke Dares**, Emo's
Two Tons of Steel, Gruene Hall
Chris McCaughan, **Madeline**, **the Door-Keys**, MonkeyWrench Books
Hollow, RedRum
Dirty on Purpose, Stubb's Bar-B-Q

WED 9
The Ergs, **Hunchback**, Beerland
Red Pony Clock, Chain Drive
Lagwagon, **Lawrence Arms**, Emo's
The Eels, La Zona Rosa

THU 10
The Hex, Beerland
Eric Taylor, Cactus Cafe
The Rentals, **Ozma**, Emo's
Hunchback, **the Ergs**, the Parlor
Peligro Social, **Repercussions**, Sound on Sound
Bloc Party, **J Versus K**, Stubb's Bar-B-Q
Harry & the Potters, Wooldridge Square Park

for your benefit

THU 03
Austin Daze South Austin Picnic Social w/ LZ Love, Leeann Atherton, Shelley King, Mr. Brown, **Ruta Maya**

SAT 05
Operation School Bell Benefit w/ Reverend Les & Johnny Slugg, **Kasbah Salon**

Where There's a Will There's a Well Kenyan Water Benefit w/ Lee Simmons, **Whit Hanks Antiques**

MON 07
Duggan & Nancy Flanakin Medical Benefit w/ Malford Milligan, Natalie Zoe, Mike Cross, **North by Northwest**

THU 10
Center for Child Protection Benefit, Buck Owens Birthday Bash, **Continental Club**

LARRY BRAGGS

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TOWER OF POWER



SUNDAY AUGUST 6TH

AUGUST

		Happy Hour 6-8	*	Headliners 9:30
thur	3	Gaila Kenneally	•	LC Rocks
fri	4	Shawn & Phil	•	The Mark Chandler Band
sat	5		•	Spazmatics
sun	6		•	Larry Braggs
mon	7	Kevin Ahart	•	Jukebox Heroes feat. Robert Wagner
tue	8	Seela & Friends	•	ROCKSTAR karaoke
wed	9	Trent & Dave	•	Spazmatics

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LISA RICHARDS 7-8:30PM

SATURDAY 8/5
SIDEHILL GOUGERS 9PM-11PM
MYRNA CABELLO 7-8:30PM

SUNDAY 8/6 6-8PM NO COVER!
CIENFUEGOS

TUESDAY 8/8
LARRY LANGE AND HIS LONELY KNIGHTS 8-10PM
ETHAN AZZARIAN NO COVER! 6-7:30PM

WEDNESDAY 8/9 9:30-10:30PM NO COVER!
SETH WALKER
HARRY BODINE TRIO 6:00-7:30PM

COMING SOON:
DOUGLAS GREER 8/11
KENNETH BRIAN 8/12
POP STARS 8/13
LITTLE MIKEY + THE SODA JERKS 8/18
THE JOHNS 8/19
DIMINISHED 7 BAND 8/20

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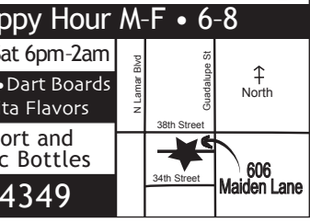
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SonCache - 08/04
Reggae Night - 08/05
O-Positivo - 08/11
Sahara Nights - 08/12

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club listings ◂◂ FROM THURSDAY

RADISSON Winton Reynolds Jazz Trio
RANCH 616 Lucas Hudgins & the First Cousins (8:00)
RED FEZ Vehicular (8:00), Nuthin' New All-Stars (10:30)
RED'S SCOOT INN The Nortons (8:30)
REDRUM Blood of Patriots, Deathcult BBQ, Force Fed, Gammacide
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine Quartet (7:00)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Karaoke
RIO GRANDE MEXICAN RESTAURANT Cienfuegos (8:00)
ROADHOUSE Open Jam w/ Mojo (8:00)
ROMEO'S Jacinta (6:30)
ROOFTOP AT HOULIHAN'S Bruce James (8:00)
ROOM 710 Notes From the Underground, La Mancha, Fra Pandolph, Gorch Fock
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Dave Jorgenson
RUTA MAYA Austin Daze South Austin Picnic Social w/ LZ Love, Leeann Atherton, Shelley King, Mr. Brown (7:30)
SAXON PUB Rob Roy Parnell (6:00), Carolyn Wonderland, George Devore (8:00)
SHADY GROVE Mother Truckers (8:00)
SHENANIGANS Billy D
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Anagen
SHOAL CREEK SALOON The Gunhands, Reid Wilson & His So-Called Friends
SKY LOUNGE Retro Thursdays w/ DJ Def M
TAMBALEO DJ Tats (10:00)
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Greezy Wheels, Elana James & the Continental Two (9:00)
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies (7:30)
TRIPLE CROWN The Christophers, Spank, Love Above Law, Mind Divided
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH The Troublesome Trio (6:00)
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Sean Russell (6:30)
WHISKY BAR Brothers and Sisters, Learning Secrets w/ Ian Orth, Ben Craven
Y BAR & GRILL Jane Bond & Chad Tracy (7:00)
Z'TEJAS Thomas Hughes (6:00)

Fri 04

311 CLUB Soul Fishin', Joe Valentine & Lynn
AGAVE Randy Pavlock (7:30)
ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE Fabulous Chevelles (8:30)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE George Enslé
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR Altar Boyz
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Joe Richardson
BEERLAND Mr. Lewis & the Funeral Five, Bad Rackets, Sons of Hercules
BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH The Music of John Williams w/ the Austin Wind Symphony (8:00)
BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART DJ NickNack, National Poetry Slam (6:00)
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BOAT HOUSE GRILL Byrd & Street (6:00)
'BOUT TIME DJ Kim Hicks
BRENTWOOD TAVERN Teri Joyce & Roger Wallace
BROKEN SPOKE James Hand
BROWN BAR DJ Gray, Late Night w/ mr.ripley (9:00)
CACTUS CAFE Glass Eye, Ethan Azarian, Randy Rogers, Wade Bowen
CAFE CAFFEINE Hundts Cup, Real Live Tigers (9:00)
CARIBBEAN LIGHTS All U Need Friday
CAROUSEL LOUNGE The Generals (9:00)
CEDAR STREET Philip & Shawn (6:00)
CENTRAL MARKET CAFE Texas Eastside Kings (6:30)
CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Kim Polini, Janis Machado (7:00)
CHEAPO DISCS Manager's Choice, Chadd Thomas & the Crazy Kings, Herman the German (5:00)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE The Gougers
CLUB ONE 15 Blend Fridays w/ DJ Inverse, DJ Casanova
CONTINENTAL CLUB The Blues Specialists (6:30), Guitar Shorty, Scott H. Biram CD Release, the Weary Boys (9:00), Gallery: Mike Flanigin B-3 Trio (10:00)
COOL RIVER CAFE The Grooves
COTTON CLUB Billy Mata (8:30)
DAN MCKLUSKY'S Bobby Doyle (7:00)
DANDELION CAFE Rebecca's Ragtime Revue (6:00)
THE DIRTY DOG Redefining the Moment, Smile & Nod (9:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters
THE DRISKILL Kirk Hale, Suzi Stern, George Oldziey (6:00)
EGO'S Uncle Lucius
EL RINCON Cienfuegos (7:00)
EL SOL Y LA LUNA Mary Welch y Los Curanderos (7:30)
ELEMENT DJ 2DQ (10:00)
ELYSIUM Black Math Experiment, CTRL
EMO'S The Boxing Lesson, Peel, Just Guns
END OF AN EAR Leatherbag & the Cows (6:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA Driftin' Luke & His Personalities, the Channel, Golden Bear
FLORES MEXICAN RESTAURANT Johnny Gonzales (6:00)
FREDDIE'S PLACE Billy Dee (6:00)
GENUINE JOE COFFEEHOUSE Open Mic (7:30)
GIDDY UPS Wild Healers (9:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON The Stepsiders
THE GLENN AT THE BACKYARD The Radiators (8:00)
GÜERO'S TACO BAR LeRoi Brothers (6:30)
HANOVER'S Pete Benz
HEADHUNTERS Duke, Streetlight Suzy, Mitra, Bricks ATX, Oklahomos
HILL'S CAFE Melody Mann (7:30)
HOLE IN THE WALL Brooks Alan Brannon, Black Before Red, AUX, the Black (12:30) (7:30)
IT'S A GRIND COFFEEHOUSE Beth Lee (7:00)
JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Jazzmer (6:00)
JOHNNY FINS Newsboyz
JOVITA'S John Bardy, Lisa Richards, the Honchos (5:30)
LA CABANA GRILL Blues Jam w/ Li'l Steph (8:00)
LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim
LUCKY LOUNGE Aston Teague (8:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Flametrick Subs, Velvet Brick
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (7:00)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Funky Old Soul, Dysfunkshun Junkshun
THE OASIS The Atlantics
ONE WORLD THEATRE Jesse Cook (7:00, 9:30)
THE PALLADIUM Vibe
THE PARLOR The Dickins (9:00)





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8/5
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"Texas Blues"

8/6
Jimi Lee w/ El Coyote' 8pm
"Musicians Jam"

8/7
Little Steph 8pm
Texcellorators
"Blue Monday Musicians Jam"

8/8
Swamp Sauce 8pm
Alan Haynes 10pm
"Texas Blues"

8/9
Clay Jeffrey 8pm
Preacher Keen 10pm

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11pm George Devore
Hhr. Rob Roy Parnell 6pm

Fri. Aug. 4 11pm



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W.C. Clark
Bruce James 9:30pm
Jim Halfpenny 8pm
HHr. The Regulars 6pm No Cover

Sat. Aug. 5 11pm



Seth Walker
Special Early Show



Stephen Bruton 8pm

Sun. Aug. 6
The Resentments
w/ Stephen Bruton, Scrappy Jud Newcomb, Bruce Hughes, Jon Dee Graham & John Chipman 7pm
Red Spade with Malford Milligan 10pm



12am Jay Thomas

Mon. Aug. 7



8:30 pm
Hayes Carll
7pm WALT WILKINS
Graham Wilkinson & Underground Township 11pm
12:30am The Dedringers

Tues. Aug. 8
12am Will Sexton
10pm Philip Gibbs
8pm GREAT NEW ARTIST:
OTIS GIBBS DON'T MISS OUT
HHr. Beth Black 6pm No Cover

Wed. Aug. 9
HHr. Pauline Reese 6pm



8pm
Monte Montgomery
12am Sidehill Gougers
Lisa Tingle 10:30pm

COMING TO THE SAXON:
Fri. 8/11 - Jon Dee Graham
Sat. 8/12 - Hayes Carll
Fri. 8/18 - Vallejo

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Sunday, Aug.6
The Captain Legendary Band

Thursday, Aug. 10
Cari Hutson Band

Friday, Aug. 11
Josh Grider

Saturday, Aug. 12
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NELO 12
FRANCIS 11
CONSUMPTION HOOKS 9:30
WESLEY LUNSFORD 8

FRIDAY AUGUST 4 / $8
HERO FACTOR 12
BIG BLUE HEARTS 10
SUN OF SULTANS 9
ELISE EVANS 8

SATURDAY AUGUST 5 / $8
ACTIVE RADIO 12
FRANCIS 11
DAVE DOOBININ 10
PAM MILLER 9
RENE REYES 8

SUNDAY AUGUST 6 / $5
PATTY DAVID 12
THE DEDRINGERS 9:30
THE JAM PROJECT 8

MONDAY AUGUST 7 / $5
WELCOME TO ODDVILLE
A NIGHT OF MUSIC & COMEDY
FEATURING COMEDIANS
FRED JONES W/ KYLE ALLRED & SKRAKOWSKI 11
WILL EVANS 9:30
WILL T. MASSEY 8
KELLY McCORMICK 7

TUESDAY AUGUST 8 / $5
FREE NUG & THE KICKBACXXX
W/ JAMES HYLAND 10
LISA HAYES 8
DERTY BIRD 12

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 9 / $5
SOUTHERN FRIED 9:30
SUZANNA CHOFFEL 12
BRUCE JAMES 8

UPCOMING SHOWS
8 MILLION STORIES 08 11
08 19 EARLY PEARL

MOMOS 5TH ANNIVERSARY
10+ BANDS OVER 2 NITES 08/25 & 26

Austin's "Original Swanky Joint"

✦Austin Chronicle's BEST OF AUSTIN WINNER SINCE '97✦

speakeasy

CALL 47-PARTY

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3 MERIDIAN WEST 9:30PM

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4 MEMPHIS TRAIN 9:30PM

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5 KELLY DOZE 9:30PM

MONDAY, AUGUST 7 JAMES GOSSETT 9:30PM

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8 TEXAS TUESDAYS NOWHERE TEXAS BAND 9:30PM

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9 LATIN WEDNESDAYS THE BREW 9:30PM

412-D CONGRESS AVE. • 476-8017 (entrance in the alley) • speakeasyaustin.com

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TEXAS TUESDAYS

DOORS @8:00PM

SPEAKEASY MUSIC LOUNGE

NO COVER

EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT

KVET 98.1 FM AUSTIN

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Live Music Early

Ipod Night Every Wednesday at 9pm

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THE ORIGINAL WAREHOUSE BAR

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UFC FIGHT ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 26TH

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Satisfaction w/ DJ Shane

THU	Nuthin' New All-Stars	10 :00–2:00
FRI	DJ Gibb	10:00–2:00
SAT	DJ Kurv	10:00–2:00
SUN	DJ Kurupt	10:00–2:00
MON	DJ Tats	10:00–2:00
TUE	Twist Up DJ Manny	10:00–2:00
WED	Satisfaction DJ Shane	10:00–2:00

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OR YOU CAN BUY THEM AT WATERLOO RECORDS & END OF AN EAR RECORDS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3

CAPITALIST CASUALTIES
(20TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR!)
ORIGIN • PLEASANT VALLEY (RELAPSE) PANTHER ZORA • REPERCUSSIONS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4

JUST GUNS • PEEL
THE BOXING LESSON • TBA

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5

TWO STAGES FOR ONE PRICE!
OUTSIDE:
GHOSTLAND OBSERVATORY
PONG • LIONS



INSIDE:
SAY HI TO YOUR MOM
PROM NITE TICKETS AVAILABLE (9PM)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6

EMO'S LOUNGE:
BOOTKAMP CLIK FEATURING
BUCKSHOT • SMIF N WESSUN
HELTAH SKELTAH • SEAN PRICE
GLOBAL • JUST BORN
DJS TAKO & NOTION
TICKETS AVAILABLE
INSIDE:
LOWER CLASS BRATS
RESILIENCE
KRUMBUMS • THE DISPICABLES
TICKETS AVAILABLE

MONDAY, AUGUST 7

CLOSED

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8

LADYHAWK
THE COKE DARES
MIKE BOOHER/CATHERINE DAVIS OF ZYKOS

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9

Lagwagon (11PM)
W/ THE LAWRENCE ARMS (10PM)
A WILHELM SCREAM (9PM)
TICKETS AVAILABLE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10

OUTSIDE:
THE RENTALS (11PM)



OZMA (10PM)
CRUISERWEIGHT (9PM)
TICKETS AVAILABLE
INSIDE SEPARATE SHOW:
THESE MEN ARE LIARS (FINAL SHOW)
TIA CARRERA • BETA VALENTINE
THE LAUGHING

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11

OUTSIDE:
STRANGE FAMOUS RECORDS SHOWCASE FEATURING:
SAGE FRANCIS
BUDDY WAKEFIELD
JARED PAUL • GRAND BUFFET
DJ JESTER THE FILIPINO FIST
TICKETS AVAILABLE
INSIDE:
THOSE PEABODYS • HORSE+DONKEY
THE CARROTS • TBA

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12

THE METEORS
(25 YR ANNIVERSARY TOUR)
BIG JOHN BATES AND THE VOODOO DOLLZ
THE SLANDERIN
TICKETS AVAILABLE
EMO'S LOUNGE:
FAT LIP (PHARCYDE) • OMNI
MOLMANIAK (B.L.X CREW) • JUST BORN
TICKETS AVAILABLE

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

EL JESUS DE MAGICO • UME
THE STRANGE BOYS • THE SUMMER WARDROBE

MONDAY, AUGUST 14

HORNS OF HAPPINESS • THE CHANNEL
THE DRAWING BOARD • THE ALICE ROSE

☆FREE EVENTS IN THE☆ EMO'S LOUNGE

600 E. 6TH • CORNER OF 6TH & RED RIVER

• 8/3 "THE GATHERING" A WEEKLY EVENT (EVERY THURS) W/ GUEST MCS, DJS & OPEN MIC. MUSICMIND.NET
• 8/10 "THE GATHERING" • 8/11 STAY GOLD WITH DJ JOHN GROSS (PARTYENDS.COM) AND THE MOUTH PLUS FANCY FEAST (CARI OF BELAIRE)

coming soon: • 8/15 THE SWORD / SAVIOURS* • 8/18 THE CARBONNAS • 8/19 GET HIM EAT HIM / EVANGELICALS • 8/23 TUNA HELPERS / BABY DEE • 8/25 GORILLA BISCUITS • 8/28 ATOMIC BITCHWAX* • 8/30 THOR / ZOLAR X* • 8/31 MAE (EARLY)*/DON CABALLERO (LATE)* • 9/1 RAKIM (OUT) * / GIL MANTERA'S PARTY DREAM (IN)* • 9/2 SCRATCH ACID REUNION* • 9/3 SUPAGROUP* • 9/7 THE ADVANTAGE (HELLA MEMBERS)* • 9/9 WHITE WHALE* (LOUNGE) / SUNDAY MORNING EINSTEINS (IN) • 9/13 ISIS* • 9/14 OFFICIAL PRE ACL SHOW WITH THE POLYPHONIC SPREE PLUS PILOT DRIFT / PHILLIP E KARNATS (OUT) OCTOPUS PROJECT / ENON / TOKYO POLICE CLUB (IN) • 9/16 OFFICIAL ACL AFTERSHOW WITH SPARKLEHORSE (ADVANCE TICKETS FOR 9/14 & 9/16 VIA FRONTGATE) • 9/19 DAUGHTERS* • 9/21 FRENCH KICKS* • 9/22 THE GOSSIP* • 9/24 SUPERSYSTEM* • 9/25 ART BRUT / WE ARE SCIENTISTS* • 9/26 THE QUEERS* • 9/27 RATATAT* • 9/28 SERENA MANEESH / MAGNOLIA ELECTRIC CO. / XIU XIU * • 10/1 RICHARD BUCKNER * • 10/4 MASTADON * • 10/6 DEL THE FUNKEE HOMOSAPIEN*

Antones

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THIS WEEKEND!

FRIDAY AUGUST 4TH — DOORS 8 - SHOW 9 - $10



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VEHICULAR • EVERYDAY PEOPLE

SATURDAY AUGUST 5TH — $15 ADV • DOORS 7:30 • SHOW 8:30



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&
VIENNA TENG



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LATER... SHOW 12 - 85ATDOOR
GARY CLARK JR

SUNDAY AUGUST 6TH — DOORS 8 - SHOW 9 - $10

TEXAS young Kingz
MIX TAPE RELEASE
RASHEED • SPARK DAWG • GUTTA GANG • KOOLWHIP

MONDAY AUGUST 7TH — DOORS 8 - SHOW 9 - $18
RUSH ENERGY DRINK PRESENTS ROCK BUS



ROCK BUS wideawake 10PM
ZAC BROWN BAND
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TUESDAY AUG 8TH — DOORS 7 - SHOW 8 - $5
Blue Tuesday WITH DEREK O'BRIEN
MALFORD MILLIGAN & FRIENDS

AUGUST 9, 10, and 11 — FRIDAY NIGHT SEMIFINALS! 7-9pm • FREE!



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FREE SHOWS
The BIGGEST POETRY SLAM IN HISTORY
• Daytime Workshops WED: 2-5PM | THUR: 12:45-5PM
• Evening Competitions 7-10:30PM
• Hip-Hop Afterparties
DJS, FOR PRIVATE SPONSORS ONLY

FRIDAY AUGUST 11TH — 10PM SHOW - $15
MONTE MONTGOMERY BIRTHDAY JAM!



SATURDAY AUGUST 12TH — DOORS 7 - SHOW 8 - $10
ANAGEN **GREEN RIVER ORDINANCE**
with THE HERO FACTOR & ZIPPER

MONDAY AUGUST 14TH — $10 ADV/$12 AT DOOR - DOORS 7 - SHOW 8



CORINNE BAILEY RAE
GRAN BEL FISHER & KEVIN DEVINE
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PLUS A LATE SET OF
8 MILLION STORIES

THURSDAY AUGUST 17TH — DOORS 7 - SHOW 8 - $5



WENDY COLONNA
live recording!
LOVE COUNTY BIG BLUE HEARTS

FRIDAY AUGUST 18TH — DOORS 8 - SHOW 9 - $10
DUCK SOUP
RED SPADE w/ MALFORD MILLIGAN

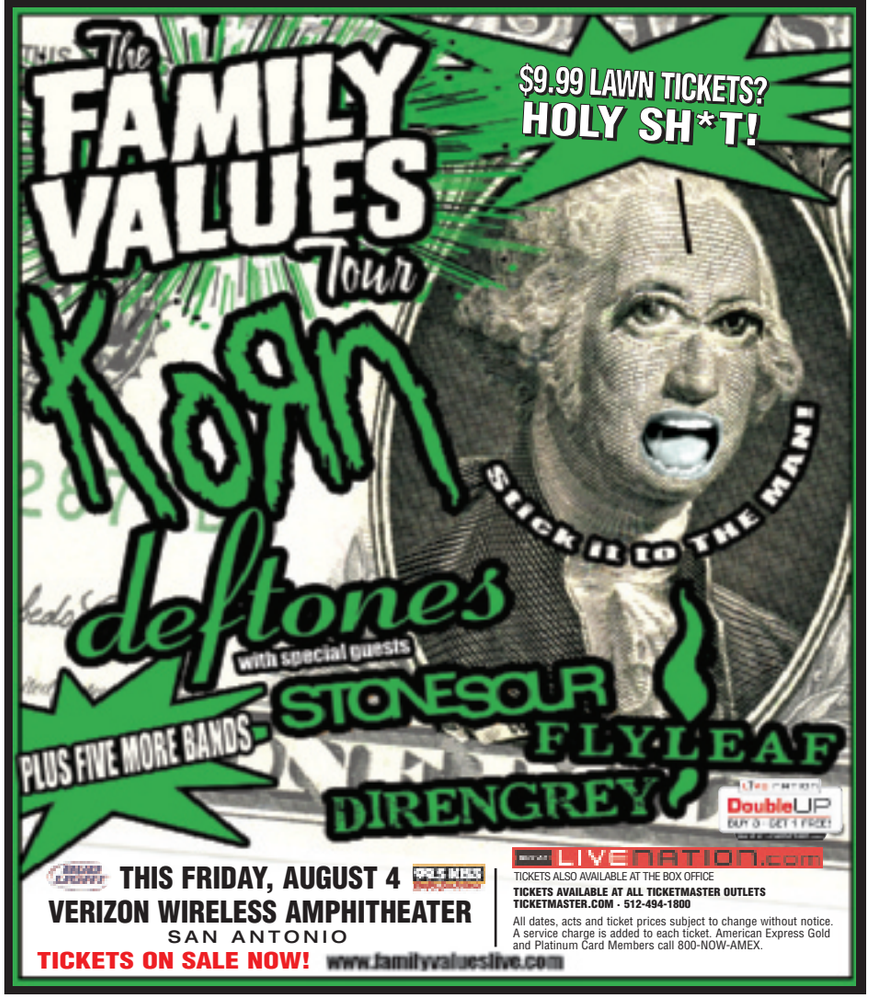
THURSDAY AUGUST 24TH — DOORS 7 - SHOW 8 - $5



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hot show!
DAVE MATTHEWS COLLABORATOR
TIM REYNOLDS

8/19: **GUY FORSYTH** LIVE RECORDING with ERIC TESSMER • 8 MILLION STORIES
8/20: **DIAMOND D • M1** of DEAD PREZ
NOTTZ • E SWIFT of ALKAHOLIKS
VEHICULAR 10pm
8/25: SPECIAL EVENING FEATURING THE MUSIC OF
ELECTRIC LIGHT ORCHESTRA
K-TEL & THE HIT MACHINE
with TOSCA STRINGS • JOHNNY GOODE • DARIN MURPHY
8/26: **PODUNK • PUSHMONKEY**
8/27: **TIM ROGERS & TEX PERKINS**
SAT SEP 16 — ON SALE NOW! FRONTGATETICKETS.COM
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ACL AFTERSHOW

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club listings ◂◂ FROM FRIDAY

THE PEACOCK Will T. Massey CD Release
PLUSH Micasa Tu Casa w/ Tarek, MC Flint (10:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Gary Kyle
RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)
RADISSON Hayden Vitera
RAGGEDY ANNE'S Karaoke
REDRUM Above Ground, Black Obsidian, Bangladesh, Soulblood Divide, Meet Fist
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine, Mr. Fabulous (6:00)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Swamp Sauce
ROOFTOP AT HOULIHAN'S The Eggmen (8:30)
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies
RUTA MAYA Ladies' Hip-Hop Night w/ Mello, DJ POW, Perseph One, Lady Legacy
SAXON PUB The Regulars (6:00)
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Adrenaline
SKI SHORES Red Dawg (6:30)
STARDUST CLUB Second Hand Rose
TAMBALEO DJ Holland (6:00)
TEXAS BAR & GRILL The Balls
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Susanna Sharpe & Catavento (7:30)
TRIPLE CROWN Rabb Rodriguez & Los Killa Hawgs, Champagne With Friends
VICTORY GRILL Spirit Groove
VUE Mumbojumbo w/ DJ Supafly, Nathan Castle, Mike C.
THE WATER TANK Karaoke w/ R.J.
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Strumero (8:00)
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH Darren Kozelsky (10:00)
WHISKY BAR In the Pocket, DJ Tats, Hannibal Beretta
Y BAR & GRILL Andy Van Dyke, Rain Ravens

Sat 05

311 CLUB Dewayne Davis, Joe Valentine & Lynn (9:30)
ANTONE'S Gary Clark Jr., Vienna Teng, Duncan Sheik
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Max Zimmet
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR Blue Mist
AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET DOWNTOWN Sara Shansky (10:00 am)
B.B. ROVERS Stephanie Fix (9:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Eric Tessmer
BARCELONA DJ Berlin
BEERLAND High Rollers, Flametrick Subs
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BOAT HOUSE GRILL Jim Nosler (6:00)
'BOUT TIME DJ Kim Hicks (9:00)
BRENTWOOD TAVERN The Gunhands
BROKEN SPOKE Bruce Robison
BROWN BAR mr.ripley (10:00)
CACTUS CAFE Jelly Dots
CENTRAL MARKET CAFE Cornell Hurd Band (6:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Houston Marchman
CLUB ONE 15 Uptown Saturday w/ Cut Creator (9:30)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Mike Flanigin's B-3 Trio, In the Club: Redd Volkaert (4:00), Eleven Hundred Springs, Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (10:00)
COOL RIVER CAFE London Calling
COTTON CLUB Miss Leslie & Her Juke Jointers (9:00)
DAN MCKLUSKY'S Mac Bynum (7:30)
THE DIRTY DOG 85 Decibels, Manhands, Rockus Circus (9:00)
THE DRISKILL Pat Griffin, Suzi Stern, George Oldziey (6:00)
EL SOL Y LA LUNA Cerronato (7:30)
ELEMENT DJ 2DQ (10:00)
EMO'S Inside: Prom Nite, Say Hi to Your Mom; Outside: Lions, Pong, Ghostland Observatory
END OF AN EAR Golden Bear CD Release (6:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA the Argives, Bellfuries, the Ugly Beats
FREDDIE'S PLACE Bill Jerram (6:00)
GALAXY CAFE Paul White Quartet (7:00)
GALLERY LOMBARDI Stay Gold DJ's; Economy; Cue; the Lemurs; Tacks, the Boy Disaster
GIDDY UPS 2 of Hearts (9:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Billy Dee
GÜERO'S TACO BAR Moeller Brothers (6:30)
HANOVER'S Code Blue, Pushmonkey
HEADHUNTERS Jolly Garogers, Classroom 9, Ese, Opus Dai, Bent Gents
HILL'S CAFE Deek Moore
HOLE IN THE WALL Mike Nicolai, Rite Flyers, Pocket Symphonies, Black Market Hearts (9:00)

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WE TAKE CARE OF THE REST
WED. — SAT. | SHOWS START AT 8PM
THURSDAY AUGUST 3
BRUCE JAMES
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BIG BLUE HEART
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 9
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SAT 5 Adam Carroll
Stayton Bonner

SUN 6 - Twangzilla
MON 7 - Troy Campbell
TUE 8 - Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory
WED 9 - David Hamburger
THU 10 Stephanie Fix
FRI 11 Grassy Knoll Boys • Sarah Jarosz
SAT 12 Bellvue Jubillee • Plum Tucker

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ADRIAN & THE SICKNESS
HOE SLINGER
ALICE SPENCER

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4 • 10pm
THE BLACK • A U X
BLACK BEFORE RED

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5 • 9pm
BLACK MARKET HEARTS
POCKET SYMPHONIES
RITE FLYERS
MIKE NICOLAI

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6 • 9pm
RICKY STEIN • BLACK JOE
REBECCA'S RAGTIME REVUE

MONDAY, AUGUST 7 • 9pm
AMY COOK • LEE SIMMONS

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8 • 9pm
MESHBANES
THE CONRADS
KAPOW MUSIC

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 8pm
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1/2 Price Appetizers And Drink Specials

Sunday 6th
Noon
Traditional Irish Music Brunch
With
The Tea Merchants
6pm
Mother Egan's "Shoot for Loot" Basketball Competition
Cash prize, free to enter, strictly over 21

Monday 7th
7pm
Dart Competition

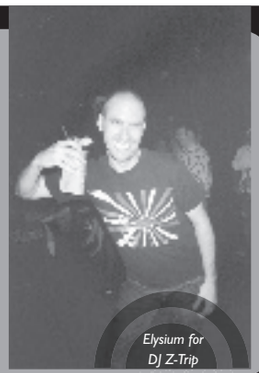
Monday Man-Law Night
Weekly and monthly prizes for winning New man-laws
Throwing of Darts, Shooting of Hoops, Watching of Sports, Drinking of Beer, Passing of Gas, Politically incorrect discussing of female body parts, Crude jokes about the French, and many other things offensive to the Ladies. Every Monday night at Mother Egan's.

Tuesday 8th
Trivia Quiz All New Season Starts Tonight!
Come on down and test your knowledge.
No Cover, Over 21.

Mother Egan's covered deck is available for private parties on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.

CHRONtourage

Fri., August 4, 8pm
GlassEye
Cactus Cafe, The Texas Union, at the corner of 24th and Guadalupe
www.utexas.edu/student/txunion/ae/cactus


Elysium for DJ Z-Trip

Come to the following Chrontourage Events this week and register to win an ACL Fest 3-day wristband

Sat., August 5, 8:30pm
BigBlueHearts
THE ROOFTOP AT HOULIHAN'S RESTAURANT + BAR
Houlihan's RoofTop, 309 E. 3rd St., no cover, www.houlihans.com

Sun., August 6, 6pm
WHIP-INTUNES&BREWSBenefit

Continental Club, 1315 S. Congress Ave., www.whipin.com
featuring POST-COLONIAL LAGERS W/TUNES BY THE BOB LIVINGSTON BAND COWBOYS & INDIANS

Mon., August 7, 8pm
ROCKTHEBUS
Antone's
Antone's, 213 W. 5th St, www.antones.net
Wideawake & Zac Brown Band

Tue., August 8, 5pm
In-store:RecklessKelly
WATERLOO
Waterloo Records, 600-A North Lamar, www.waterloorecords.com

Tue., August 8, 8:30pm
WadeBowen
Cactus Cafe, The Texas Union, at the corner of 24th and Guadalupe,
www.utexas.edu/student/txunion/ae/cactus

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8/3 THURSDAY
Patrick Fleming 10PM
8/4 FRIDAY
Fab Tones
8/5 SATURDAY
DJ Frank
8/6 SUNDAY
Emerald Exiles 8ish
8/7 MONDAY
Texas Hold'em Poker 7PM
8/8 TUESDAY
Tea Merchants 9PM
8/9 WEDNESDAY
Pub Quiz w/ Johnny 8PM

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The Altar Boyz
Saturday, 9:30pm-1am
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SU GRANT MAZAK BAND 4-8PM
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8/11 TISH HINOJOSA
8/17 BRANDON RHYDER
8/19 LUCKY TOMBLIN BAND
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10oz Frozen "Lime" Margaritas ONLY.
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club listings ◂◂ FROM SATURDAY

INDEPENDENCE BREWERY Tailgate Party w/ Texabama Brackish (1:00)
IT'S A GRIND COFFEEHOUSE Jordan Ferchill (7:00)
JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA The TunaHelpers (9:00)
JESSE'S SHED BED & BREAKFAST Paper Fields, Leatherbag & the Cows, Karrie Hopper, Real Live Tigers, Deer Trick (8:00)
JOHNNY FINS Sophisticates
JOVITA'S Jesse Ellis, Myrna Cabello, Sidehill Gougers (5:00)
KASBAH SALON Operation School Bell Benefit w/ Reverend Les & Johnny Slugg
LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim
LITTLE CITY Lines of Flight w/ Brian Allen, Alex Coke, Chris Cogburn
LOVE Ginger Leigh Band (8:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Everyday People
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE A Year In Exile
MAGGIE MAE'S Patrick Fleming (6:30)
MIDNIGHT RODEO Honeybrowne
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Wade Bowen
THE OASIS Two Tons of Steel
THE PARISH King James
THE PARLOR Cassette, Pompeii, the Alice Rose (9:00)
PLUSH Turntable Manners w/ DJ Tats, Dirty Harry
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Michael Shane Borden & the Diesel Kings, Mother Truckers
THE PUB Karaoke w/ Billy D.
RED FEZ DJ Kurv (10:30)
REDRUM Dead By Day, Hammerwhore, Abythos, Ignitor
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Ephraim Owens (8:30)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Mike Sanford Band
ROOFTOP AT HOULIHAN'S Big Blue Hearts (8:30)
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Lofton Kline
RUTA MAYA Paul Minor CD Release, Summer Wardrobe, Chili Cold Blood
THE SALT LICK Byrd & Street w/ Slusher (6:00)
SAM'S TOWN POINT The Kyle Project (9:00)
SÃO PAULO'S Crying Monkeys (7:30)
SATELLITE CAFE Sheridan, Erik Hokkanen (8:00)
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Adrenaline
SHOAL CREEK SALOON Ryan Briggs (8:30)
SHOOTING STARS COFFEE Obatallah (1:00)
SKI SHORES Amy & the Bullets (6:30)
STARDUST CLUB Kim & Her Blues Boys
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q Aster, Whigs
TAMBALEO DJ Kurupt, DJ Inverse (10:00)
TEXAS 1115 Zydeco Saturday
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Digital Juke
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Michele Solberg & Co. (7:30)
TRIPLE CROWN Lomita, Gobi, Word Association
TRIUMPH CAFE Brian MacLeod's HiFi (7:00)
THE WATER TANK Karaoke w/ R.J.
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Lukascookus (8:00)
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH Left Out (10:00)
WHISKY BAR Body Slam w/ DJ Manny, DJ Resinthol, Prince Klassen
WHIT HANKS ANTIQUES Where There's a Will There's a Well Benefit w/ Lee Simmons
Y BAR & GRILL Cassie Jazz Trio

Sun 06

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Hillbillz
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR Pauline Reese
B.B. ROVERS Open Mic w/ Boomer Bray, Joe Gee (7:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish Tune Session (8:00)
BEERLAND [austin swim]: Wonder Showzen, Southpaw Jones, [adult swim], Hot!Karl Show (8:00)
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Margaret Miller
BRENTWOOD TAVERN Jim Stringer's Country Jam
CEDAR STREET Les & the Funk Mob (9:30)
CENTRAL MARKET CAFE Pete Rodriguez (6:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE The Grant Mazak Band, Grant Mazak
CONTINENTAL CLUB Whip In's Tunes & Brews w/ Bob Livingston's Cowboys & Indians, Heybale! (7:00), Gallery: Mike Flanigin's B-3 Trio (10:00)
COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (5:00)
THE DIRTY DOG Stacey Miller, Trash Rockets, Wings for Wheels, Dreaming of Trains (8:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)
EGO'S Karaoke
ELYSIUM Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice
EMO'S Inside: The Dispicables, Krum-Bums, Resilience, Lower Class Brats; Outside: Entire Bootcamp Clik w/ Just Born, Global, Sean Price, Heltah Skeltah, Smif 'n' Wessun, Buckshot
FADÓ Emerald Exiles (8:00)
FRIENDS Open Mic Blues Jam w/ Walter Higgs (9:00)
GIDDY UPS Karaoke
THE GINGER MAN Marc Devine Trio (9:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Dale Watson (4:00)
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Ted Hall's Blues Church/Jam
GREEN PASTURES Jacques Vilmain (11:00 am)
GÜERO'S TACO BAR Tex Thomas (6:30)
HANOVER'S Erik Hanke & Friends
HEADHUNTERS Jacket Walker, Karaoke w/ Edie, Tombstones
HOLE IN THE WALL Rebecca's Ragtime Revue, Black Joe, Ricky Stein (10:00)
JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Jazz Brunch w/ Kinket (11:00 am)
JO'S HOT COFFEE Sinner's Brunch: Tina Rose & the Jo's House Band (12:30)
JOHNNY FINS Kent Mayhew
JOVITA'S Cienfuegos (6:00)
MANUEL'S Cienfuegos (11:30 am)
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Imperial Golden Crown Harmonizers (12:30), LZ Love (2:00)
MOONRIVER Sherry Frushay & Friends (4:00)
MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB Karaoke w/ Edie (9:00)
MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS Byrd & Street (7:30)
NUEVO LEON Mariachi Relampago (1:00)
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Open Mic w/ Jimi Lee (9:00)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz
THE OASIS The Brew
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Mrs. K
PAGGI HOUSE Dj Tomas Muniz
THE PEACOCK Dana Falconberry, the CJ Boyd Sexxxtet, Alex Dupree & the Trapdoor Band
PLUSH Car Stereo Wars
POODLE DOG LOUNGE Sunny Sweeney (8:30)
RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)
RAIN ON 4TH Hedda Layne (5:30)
RED FEZ DJ Kurupt (10:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Open Mic w/ Stephanie & Matt
ROADHOUSE Open Mic w/ Josh
ROOM 710 Murder Van
RUTA MAYA Monster Big Band (7:00)
SAN MARCOS RIVER PUB & GRILL Jimmy LaFave (7:30)
SÃO PAULO'S Trio (7:30)

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Saturday Aug 5, 7-10 TWO TONS OF STEEL No Cover
Sunday Aug 6, 7-10 THE BREW

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Tuesday, August 8 • 6pm
JESSE LEE MILLER

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and
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8:30
Ryan Briggs

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8:30
Jeff Banks Band

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DJ's Kurupt and Inverse

« Sunday »
Lounge & Classic 90's w/-- 10:00
Scott Kinnebrew AKA
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Open Mic Night---------- 8:00
Calvin Russell, Brad ------- 11:00
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SAT SEP 9



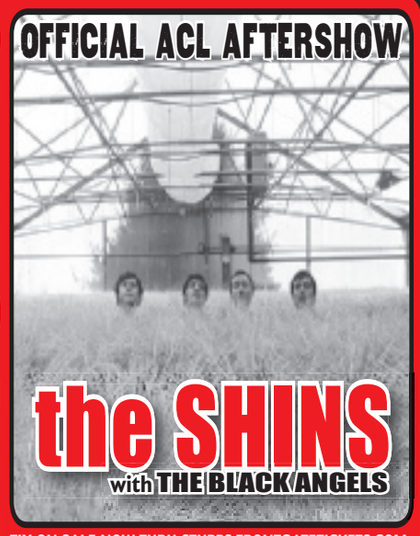
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THU SEP 14



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FRI SEP 15



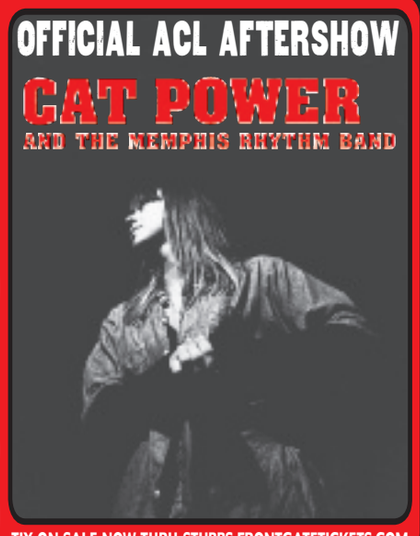
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SAT SEP 16



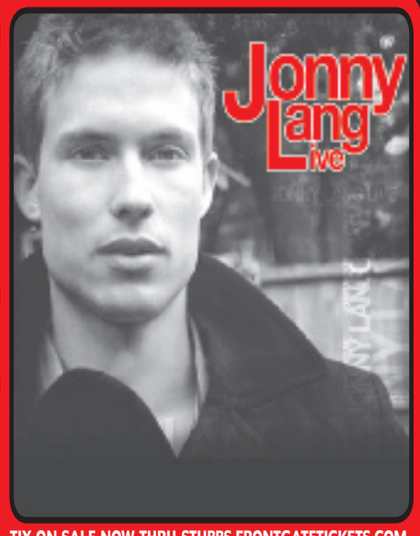
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SUN SEP 17



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THU SEP 28



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FRI SEP 29



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FRI OCT 6



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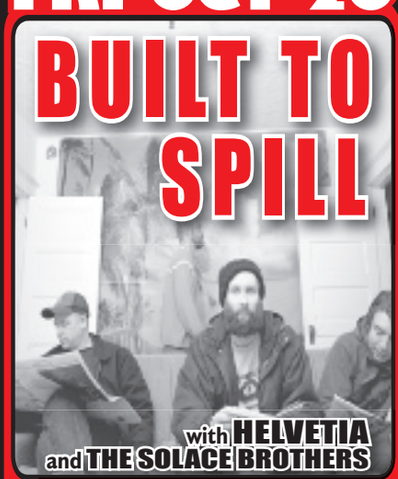
SAT OCT 14



TIX ON SALE NOW THRU
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FRI OCT 20

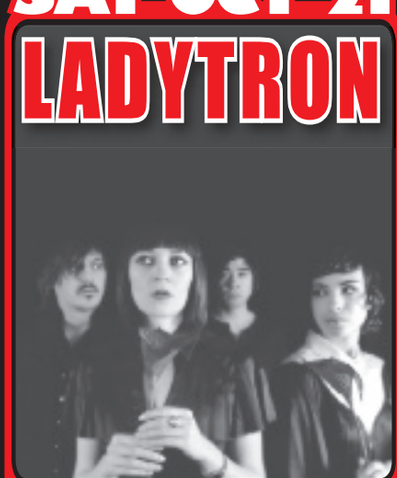
BUILT TO SPILL



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SAT OCT 21

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FRI OCT 27



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SUN AUG 6

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WITH THE LENNINGS

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MON AUG 7



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TUE AUG 8

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THU AUG 24

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FRI AUG 25

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THU AUG 31

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8.19 ROCK THE CASBAH w/ DJ MEL
8.26 THE HAIRY APES BMX
8.30 SIERRA SWAN w/ MOZELLA
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9.8 & 9.9 GRUPO FANTASMA CD RELEASE
9.22 ROGUE WAVE w/ JASON COLLETT
9.23 M. WARD w/ PORTASTATIC
9.28 JOSE GONZALEZ





club listings ◂◂ FROM SUNDAY

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D
SKI SHORES Stephen Doster & Will Sexton (5:30)
SNAKE EYES VINYL I Am Her, Kimberly Freeman, Ghetto Princess (5:00)
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q The Lennings, Kunek
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Lee and Andy
THINGS CELTIC Celtic Song Session (2:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Molly Hayes (9:00)
UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Austin Acoustic Series w/ Tish Hinojosa (7:30)
THE WATER TANK Open Mic w/ Patrick
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE WEST Sunday Brunch w/ Buzz Guerra
WHISKY BAR DJ Kon Karne, Cash Only
WOOLDRIDGE SQUARE PARK Austin Symphony Orchestra Woodwind/Brass (7:30)

Mon 07

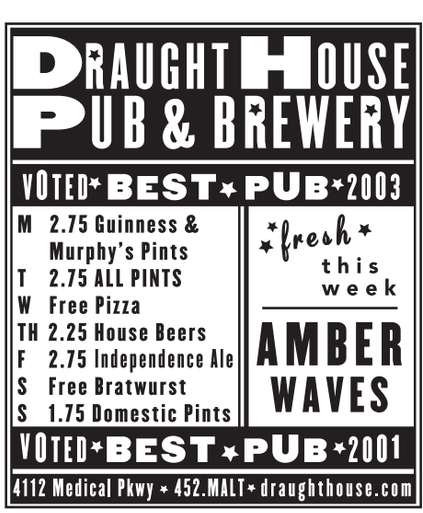
ANTONE'S Zac Brown, Wideawake
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Trent Turner
BLIND PIG PUB Patrick Fleming (10:00)
'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Margaret Miller
CEDAR STREET Kevin Ahart (6:00), Jukebox Heroes (9:30)
CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO Rich Demarco (6:30)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Paris '49 (6:30), Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (10:00)
THE DIRTY DOG Country Night w/ Wonder Boy (9:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)
EGO'S Karaoke (9:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Michael Mordecai's Jazz Jam (9:30)
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Capitol City Highlanders Pipe Band (5:30)
FRIENDS Eric Tessmer (7:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON 42 Nite
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL All-Star Karaoke
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Open Mic Poetry & Reading (7:00)
HOLE IN THE WALL Lee Simmons, Amy Cook (9:00)
JACK'S BACKYARD Karaoke w/ Stars Across Texas (9:00)
LONGBRANCH INN Singer-Songwriter Night
LUCKY LOUNGE The Swells Wave (10:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Robbie's Open Mic Night
MOMOS Will T. Massey CD Release
MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS John Wilson, Je Renee, Carl Koonce
NASTY'S DJ Mel, Jahmighty
NORTH BY NORTHWEST Duggan & Nancy Flanakin Medical Benefit w/ Malford Milligan, Natalie Zoe, Mike Cross (6:00)
PARDNERS Karaoke
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Summer Talent Search (8:00)
POODLE DOG LOUNGE The Stepsiders (9:30)
RED FEZ Motown w/ DJ Tats
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Ryan Bales
ROOM 710 Heart & Soul Sound System
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Chip Sneed
RUTA MAYA Carolyn Wonderland & Cole El-Saleh, Nathan Singleton & His Side-Show Tragedy, Brandon McHose (6:00)
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Joe Vega
SHOAL CREEK SALOON Jeff Banks Band (8:00)
SPEAKEASY James Gossett (9:30)
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q Rebirth Brass Band
TAMBALEO Open Mic (8:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Gerry's Kids (6:00)
TROPHY'S The Meshbanes
THE WATER TANK Acoustic Jam Open Mic w/ Tony Fant
WHISKY BAR Clemits, DJ Tako, DJ Notion

Tue 08

311 CLUB 3 Piece Special (8:30)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Old Time Fiddlers Jam
B.B. ROVERS Buster Gutbucket & Friends, Clepper George (7:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Open Mic (7:30)
BASTROP SENIOR CENTER The Kitchen Pickers (6:30)
BECK'S ON CONGRESS Chad Tracy & Jane Bond
BEERLAND Zookeeper, Tenlons Fort, Real Live Tigers, Lovely Sparrows
BRENTWOOD TAVERN Main Stage Karaoke
BROKEN SPOKE Debra Peters' Honky-Tonk Piano
BROWN BAR DJ Gray (9:00)
CEDAR STREET Selia, Rockstar Live (6:00)
CHARLIE'S Steak Night & Strip Off w/ Charles Robinson (6:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Ephraim Owens Experience (10:00), In the Club: Doak Short (5:30), Toni Price (6:30), Barfield, the Tyrants of Texas Funk (11:00)
CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN Open Mic w/ Bonnie & Blythe (9:00)
THE DIRTY DOG Jazz Jam (10:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
EL MERCADO'S MUSIC LOUNGE "Writers Who Rock" Songwriters Night w/ Melissa Mullins (7:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith (6:00)
ELYSIUM Sappho's Isle w/ DJ Amerykah
EMO'S Mike Booher & Catherine Davis, the Coke Dares, Ladyhawk
FIREHOUSE LOUNGE Deep Sessions w/ DJ Toddy B
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory (8:00)
FRIENDS Erin Jaimes & Her Bad Habits, Alan Haynes (7:30)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Roots Day w/ the Horton Brothers
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Mau Mau Chaplains
GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Open Stage w/ Cade Baccus
GRUENE HALL Two Ton Tuesday w/ Two Tons of Steel (8:00)
HABANA CALLE 6 Trey Lanshe (8:00)
HANOVER'S Pete Benz & Kevin Havron (7:30)
HEADHUNTERS Applicant
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Josh (8:00)
HILL'S CAFE Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Leo Stokes
HOLE IN THE WALL Claire Hamilton, Kapow Music, David Karsten Daniels, the Conrads, the Meshbanes (8:00)
HYDE PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Basses, Beethoven and Books w/ P. Kellach Waddle (8:30)
IT'S ITALIAN "Frankly Singing" w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)
JOVITA'S Ethan Azarian, Larry Lange & His Lonely Knights (6:00)
LA PALAPA Brewer Nation
LUCKY LOUNGE Boombox (10:00)







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LA ZONA ROSA

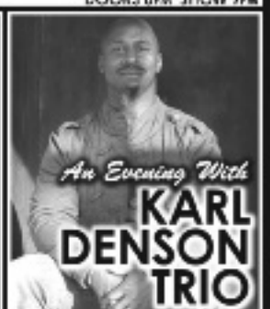
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AUG 09 DOORS 8PM SHOW 9PM



SEPT 28 DOORS 8PM SHOW 9PM



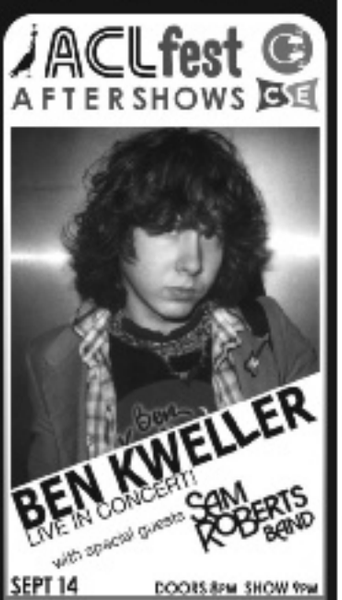
SEPT 30 DOORS 8PM SHOW 9PM



OCT 1 DOORS 7PM SHOW 8PM



OCT 6 & 7 DOORS 8PM



SEPT 14 DOORS 8PM SHOW 9PM



SEPT 15 DOORS 9PM SHOW 10PM

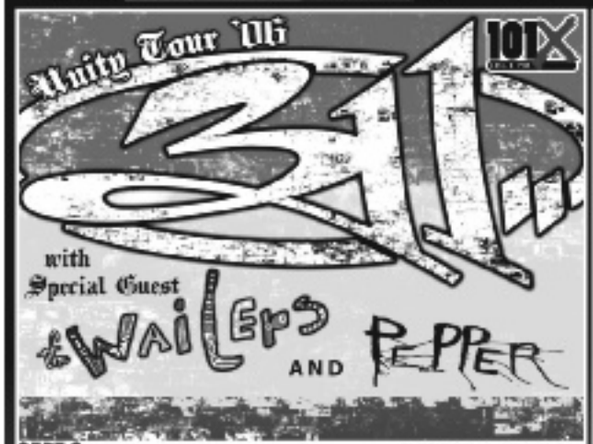


SEPT 16 DOORS 10PM SHOW 11PM

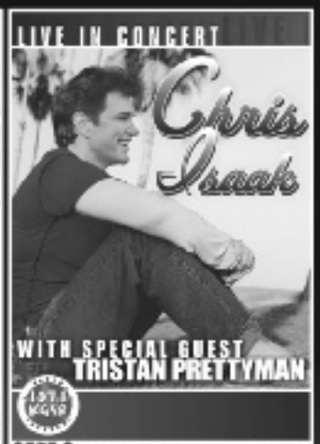
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SEPT 3 DOORS 5PM SHOW 6PM



SEPT 8 DOORS 6:30PM SHOW 7:30PM



OCT 5 DOORS 7PM SHOW 8PM



OCT 19 DOORS 6:30PM SHOW 7:30PM

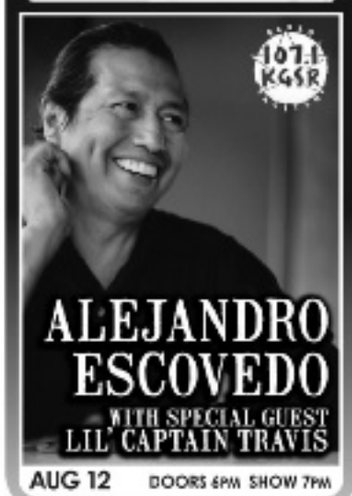


OCT 21 DOORS 6:30PM SHOW 7:30PM



NOV 1 DOORS 6PM SHOW 7PM

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AUG 12 DOORS 6PM SHOW 7PM

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FRI, AUG 4, 8PM — ASTON TEAGUE
SAT, AUG 5, 8PM — EVERYDAY PEOPLE
SUN, AUG 6, 10PM — KING JAMES
MON, AUG 7, 10PM — THE SWELLS WAVE
TUE, AUG 8, 10PM — BOOMBOX
WED, AUG 9, 9PM — TRUTH FOR LEO
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Fr 4 Rabb Rodriguez 6pm; Champagne with Friends 9pm
Sa 5 Word Association, Gobi, Lomita 10pm
Su 6 Open Mic w/ Pat, Holly or Nate
Mo 7 Gerry's Kids 6pm
Tu 8 Phil Stevens 6pm; Scotty & the Metaphysics
We 9 Ray Cashman 6pm; Spilt Milk 9pm
Th 10 Bill Jerram 6pm; Suicidal Failure, Raditude, Food Stamps 9pm
Fr 11 The Thrillbillies 6pm; Chancla, Robbie Doyen & Adam Hilton, King Slim 9pm
Sa 12 The Spiders, Hognose, Dual Exhaust 10pm

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club listings ◂◂ FROM TUESDAY

MONKEYWRENCH BOOKS Perennial Tuesday, the Touched, Steve Arceri, the Door-Keys, Madeline, Chris McCaughan (8:00)
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Billy D
PARDNERS Open Mic w/ the Michael Petty Band (7:30)
PLUSH Mentalnote
THE PUB Karaoke w/ Justin
RANCH 616 Lucas Hudgins & the First Cousins (8:00)
RED FEZ Twist Up w/ DJ Manny (10:00)
REDRUM Secret Oktober's Hardwired Industrial Night w/ Hollow
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Denia Ridley w/ Marc Devine (6:30)
RHINOS & JOCKS ROUND ROCK Karaoke w/ Mr. K.
RILEY'S TAVERN Bo Carter & Adam Lamar
ROMEO'S Jacinta (6:30)
ROPER'S NIGHTCLUB Open Mic
RUTA MAYA Poetry, Music Open Mic, MCO Band (6:00)
SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Mic w/ Dewey Lyon (9:00)
SARADORA'S COFFEEHOUSE AND EMPORIUM Jim Ivy's Jinxstreet Band (7:00)
SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Rae Rae
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Dean Seltzer
SHOAL CREEK SALOON Redd Volkaert
SNAKE EYES VINYL Exit the King, Bodhisavatta, Triumph of Gnomes (7:00)
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q Loxsly, Las Damas, Dirty on Purpose
TAVERN ON THE GRUENE Songwriters Open Mic w/ Jerry Martin & Sam Sanchez (8:00)
TEXAS 1115 Phat Tuesday w/ DJ LL
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Raquel
TRIPLE CROWN Phil Stevens, Scotty & the Metaphysics
TROPHY'S Singer-Songwriter Showcase w/ Jason Weems, Bill Davis
THE WATER TANK Karaoke w/ RJ
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Will Dunlap (6:00)
WATERLOO RECORDS Reckless Kelly (5:00)
WHISKY BAR Rockness Monster w/ DJ Kon Karne, Lee Roi

See **austinchronicle.com** *for complete listings.*

Wed 09

219 WEST Kris Kimura (6:30)
311 CLUB Sindrome (8:30)
AGAVE Andy Macintyr w/ Eric Tessmer (9:00)
APPLEBEE'S NEIGHBORHOOD BAR & GRILL Marty Linville
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Shelley King, Carolyn Wonderland
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR David Cummings Trio
AUSTIN MUSIC CO-OP Laydeez Open Mic
AUSTIN'S PIZZA Natalie Zoe Jazz Trio (8:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB The Rust Tones (10:00)
BEERLAND The Sweethearts, Hunchback, the Ends, the Ergs
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BRENTWOOD TAVERN Jon Emery
BROKEN SPOKE Lucky Tomblin
BROWN BAR DJ Manny
CAFE MUNDI Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones (8:00)
CEDAR STREET Trent & Dave, Spazmatics (6:00)
CHAIN DRIVE Crack in the Wall, Stanley Roy & the Pig Fuckers, Ghetto Princess, Red Pony Clock (9:00)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle
CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO Jacinta (7:00)
CIRCLE COUNTRY CLUB Karaoke (8:00)
CLUB ONE 15 Musik Theory (9:30)
COFFEE CREATOR Je Renee, Cherilyn, John Wilson (8:30)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gary Clark Jr. (6:30), James McMurtry (12mid)
CUBA LIBRE Havana Nights w/ the Cadaques (8:00)
CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN Jam Night w/ Dennis Lee
THE DRISKILL Kirk Hale
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kat Edmonson (7:00)
EGO'S Austin Poetry Slam (7:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharoahs (6:00)
EMO'S A Wilhelm Scream, Lawrence Arms, Lagwagon
EVANGELINE CAFE Cowboy Johnson (6:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA FlipForReal!, Starchild
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Justin Trevino (9:00)
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier
GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Ian of Echosystemz (8:00)
HANOVER'S Make It Stop
HEADHUNTERS Live Band Karaoke; Test Tube Pimp; I, Misery; the Frail
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE R.Kane (8:00)
HILL'S CAFE Jason Allen (8:00)
HOLE IN THE WALL Roger Wallace, Snowbyrd, Summer Wardrobe, Archer Ave. (8:00)
JOVITA'S Harry Bodine Trio, Seth Walker (6:00)
LA PALAPA Bobby Fuentes & Los Flames (7:00)
LA ZONA ROSA The Eels (9:00)
LAS PALOMAS Javier Chaparro, Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd (6:30)
LONGBRANCH INN Happy Hour BBQ w/ Aquaman Chill, Hobo D (6:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Truth for Leo (9:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Electric Mayhem
MOONRIVER 8 Ball Down (9:00)
MULLIGAN'S Karaoke w/ Stormy (9:00)
PARDNERS Kara
THE PARLOR Candi, the Cavities (9:00)
PARMER LANE TAVERN Pete Benz (9:00)
PLUSH Original Block Party w/ DJ Tats (10:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Jimmy Lee Jones
THE PUB Jam Session w/ Frank
RADISSON The Newz
RAGGEDY ANNE'S Karaoke
REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)
RED FEZ Satisfaction w/ DJ Shane (10:00)
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine Trio (7:00)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)
ROADHOUSE Karaoke w/ Billy D
ROOFTOP AT HOULIHAN'S Joe & Ellen
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Glenn Collins Open Mic, TR Sterzing
SAKÉ ON SIXTH Get Broke Wednesdays w/ Merrick Brown
SAM'S TOWN POINT Ramsay Midwood & Friends (8:30)
SAXON PUB Pauline Reese (6:00)
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Flipside
SHOAL CREEK SALOON Reid Wilson & His So-Called Friends, the Gunhands (8:00)
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Karaoke
SOUTH FORTY Karaoke w/ J.R. the DJ (9:00)
SPEAKEASY Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (9:15)
TAMBALEO DJ Mike Swing, Tee Double (10:00)
TEXAS 1115 Wayback Wednesday w/ DJ K9, DJ Motivator

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FRI., AUGUST 4 JAMES HAND
SAT., AUGUST 5 BRUCE ROBISON
TUE., AUGUST 8 DEBRA PETERS
HONKY TONK PIANO 7:30-11:30
WED., AUGUST 9 LUCKY TOMBLIN 7:30-11:30

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Fri 8/4, 8pm
SOULBLOOD DIVIDE, MEET FIST, BANGLADESH, ABOVE GROUND, BLACK OBSIDIAN
Sat 8/5, 8pm
IGNITOR, DEAD BY DAY, ABYTHOS, HAMMERWHORE
Tue 8/8, 9pm – Secret Oktober's Hundred Industrial Night
HOLLOW
Wed 8/9, 8pm – Ritz Lounge Night
DRINK SPECIALS, MOVIES & JUKEBOX
Thu 8/10, 8pm – Born To Lose European Tour Kick Off
BORN TO LOSE, NEW DISASTER, T.B.A.
Fri 8/11, 8pm
FRAIL, IN BLISS, THE OFFISAURS
Sat 8/12, 8pm – Broken Teeth Welcome Home Show
BROKEN TEETH, EXILE TO NAPLES, DISCARD THE WEAK, EMURA
Sun 8/13 – Fashion Show
Tue 8/15 9pm – Secret Oktober's Hundred Industrial Night
IKONOCLAST
Wed 8/16, 9pm – Ritz Lounge Night
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SATURDAY 8/5 CODE BLUE 8:30PM
PUSHMONKEY 11:30PM
SUNDAY 8/6 FREE POKER 5 & 8PM
ERIC HANKY & SPECIAL GUEST 8PM
MONDAY 8/7 JAY DIRKS 8PM
TUESDAY 8/8 PETE BENZ & KEVIN HAVRON 8PM
WEDNESDAY 8/9 MAKE IT STOP 7PM
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Friday, August 4
THE PICTURES 9:30pm
Saturday, August 5
LC ROCKS 9:30pm
Sunday, August 6
SERVICE INDUSTRY NIGHT
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Monday, August 7
FANTASY POKER LEAGUE
TEXAS HOLDEM POKER TOURNEY
7 & 9:30pm
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Tuesday, August 8
COLLEGE NIGHT
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Wednesday, August 9
SING-A-LONG WITH
MICHAEL BRACKMAN
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KARAOKE 9:30pm
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club listings ◂◂ FROM WEDNESDAY

TRIPLE CROWN Ray Cashman, Spilt Milk
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Ptarmigan (7:00)
WHISKY BAR Lutron Bomb, Mos Jef
WOODY'S SOUTH Mike Cross, Natalie Zoe (7:00)
Y BAR & GRILL Singer-Songwriter Night (6:30)
Z'TEJAS Stephen Doster & Will Sexton (6:00)
ZILKER PARK ROCK ISLAND Blues on the Green w/ Marcia Ball (7:30)

Thu 10

219 WEST Acoustic Jungle (8:00)
311 CLUB 3 Piece Special, Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Marshall Ford Swing Band
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier (9:30)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Trent Turner
BARCELONA DJ Tats
BEERLAND Cry Blood Apache, AM Syndicate, the Hex, the Black
BENNIGAN'S Chad Hebert (7:00)
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BROWN BAR mr.ripley
CACTUS CAFE Eric Taylor (8:00)
CAFE CAFFEINE Songwriter's Night w/ M.J. Baby & the Last Word, Nicole Gilbert & Hannah Williams. (9:00)
CEDAR STREET LC Rocks (9:00)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Django Walker
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Mike Flanigin's B-3 Trio (7:00, 10:00), Buck Owens' Birthday Bash (8:00)
DARWIN'S PUB J.T. Coldfire
THE DETOUR BAR & GRILL Bike Night w/ the Wildcards
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
EGO'S Poetry Slam
EMO'S Inside: The Laughing, Beta Valentine, Tia Carrera, These Men Are Liars; Outside: Cruiserweight, Ozma, the Rentals; Lounge: The Gathering w/ DJ Notion
FADÓ Patrick Fleming Power Duo (10:00)
THE FOUNDATION Coy West
GIDDY UPS Open Mic w/ Ted & Roy (8:00)
HANOVER'S Karaoke
HILL'S CAFE King Cone
HOLE IN THE WALL Alice Spencer & Her Monkey Butlers, Casting Couch, Fluffer's Union, Dialtones (8:00)
JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Poetry, Music Open Mic (8:00)
JO'S HOT COFFEE Rock & Reel w/ Midori Umi, *Ghostbusters* (7:00)
JOVITA'S Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)
LA PALAPA NTO's (8:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Everyday People (10:00)
MANUEL'S GREAT HILLS Jabba Jazz (6:30)
MOTHER'S CAFE Doc Grauzer (6:00)
NAT'S PUB Karaoke w/ Big Jim
THE PARLOR Hunchback, the Ergs, Finally Punk, the Kee Wees (8:00)
PLUSH Get Broke! w/ Merrick Brown
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Cari Hudson Band
THE PUB Karaoke
RADISSON Winton Reynolds Jazz Trio
RANCH 616 Lucas Hudgins & the First Cousins (8:00)
RED FEZ Vehicular (8:00), Nuthin' New All-Stars (10:30)
RED'S SCOOT INN The Nortons (8:30)
REDRUM Born to Lose
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine Quartet (7:00)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Beverly Hensley
RIO GRANDE MEXICAN RESTAURANT Cienfuegos (8:00)
ROADHOUSE Open Jam w/ Mojo (8:00)
ROMEO'S Jacinta (6:30)
RUTA MAYA National Poetry Slam Finals (7:00)
SAXON PUB Rob Roy Parnell (6:00), Carolyn Wonderland, George Devore (8:00)
SHADY GROVE Toni Price (8:00)
SHENANIGANS Billy D
SKY LOUNGE Retro Thursdays w/ DJ Def M
SOUND ON SOUND Repercussions, Peligro Social (6:00)
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q J Versus K, Bloc Party
TAMBALEO DJ Tats (10:00)
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Boomer Norman (7:30)
TRIPLE CROWN Bill Jerram, Food Stamps, Raditude, Suicidal Failure
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH The Troublesome Trio (6:00)
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Sean Russell (6:30)
WHISKY BAR Pompeii
WOOLDRIDGE SQUARE PARK Harry & the Potters (8:00)





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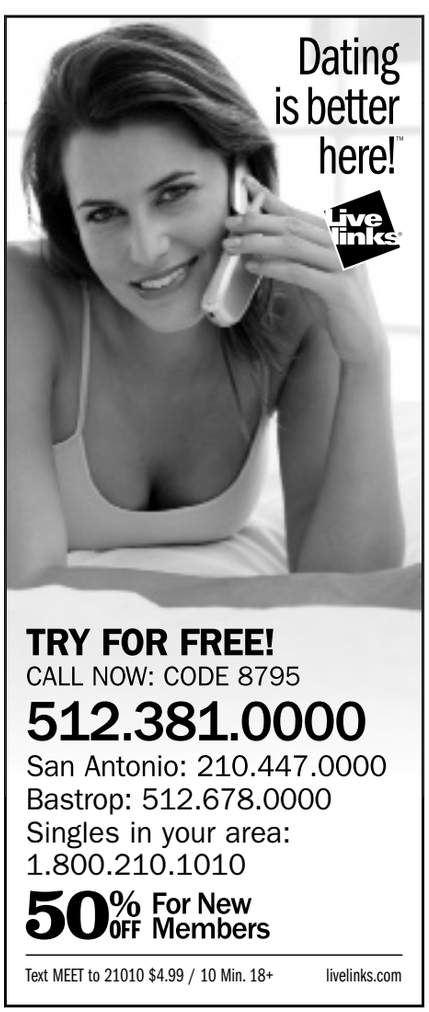
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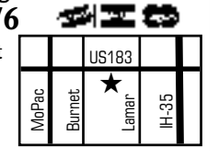
Text "CHAT" to 55255 $4.99/10 min. 18+ TangoByPhone.com

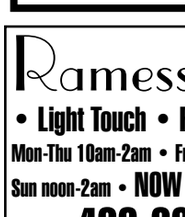


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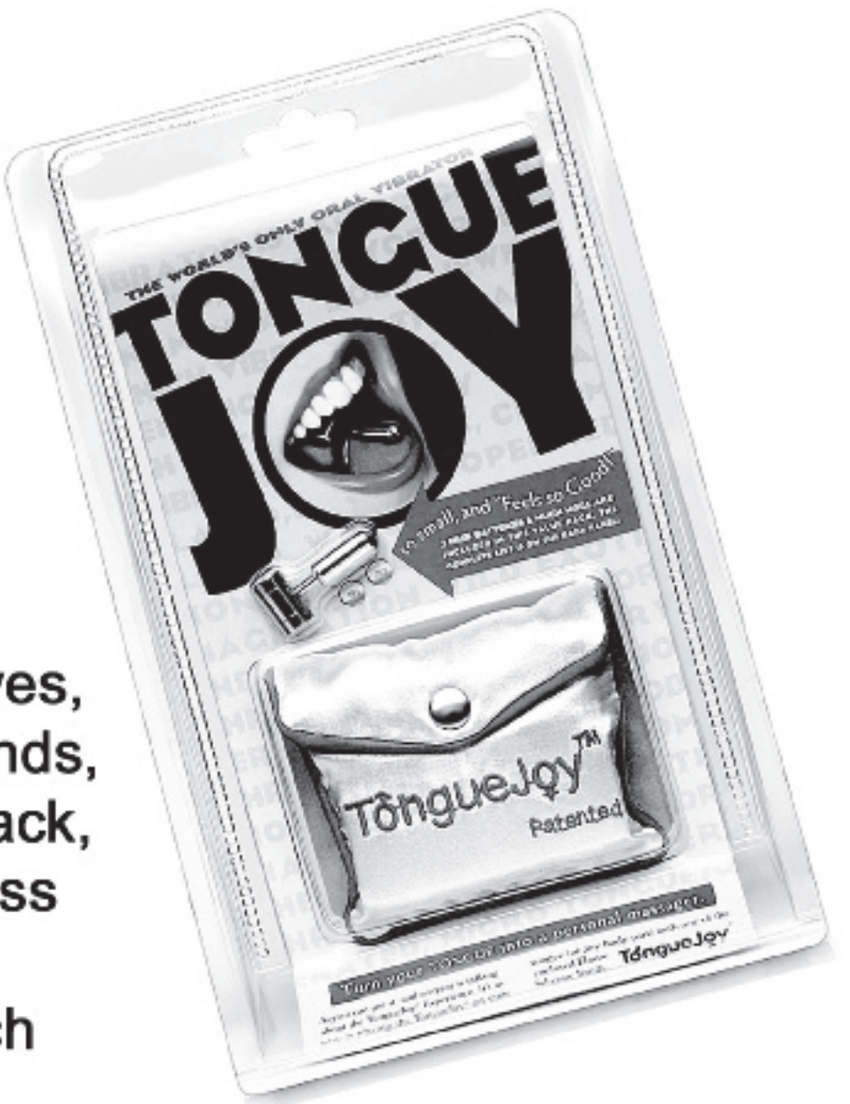
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The TongueJoy Value Pack includes:

TongueJoy Oral Vibrator,
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The perfect gift that keeps on "giving!"

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COMICS

How to Be Happy

by Shannon Wheeler



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WWW.TMCM.COM

TROUBLETOWN

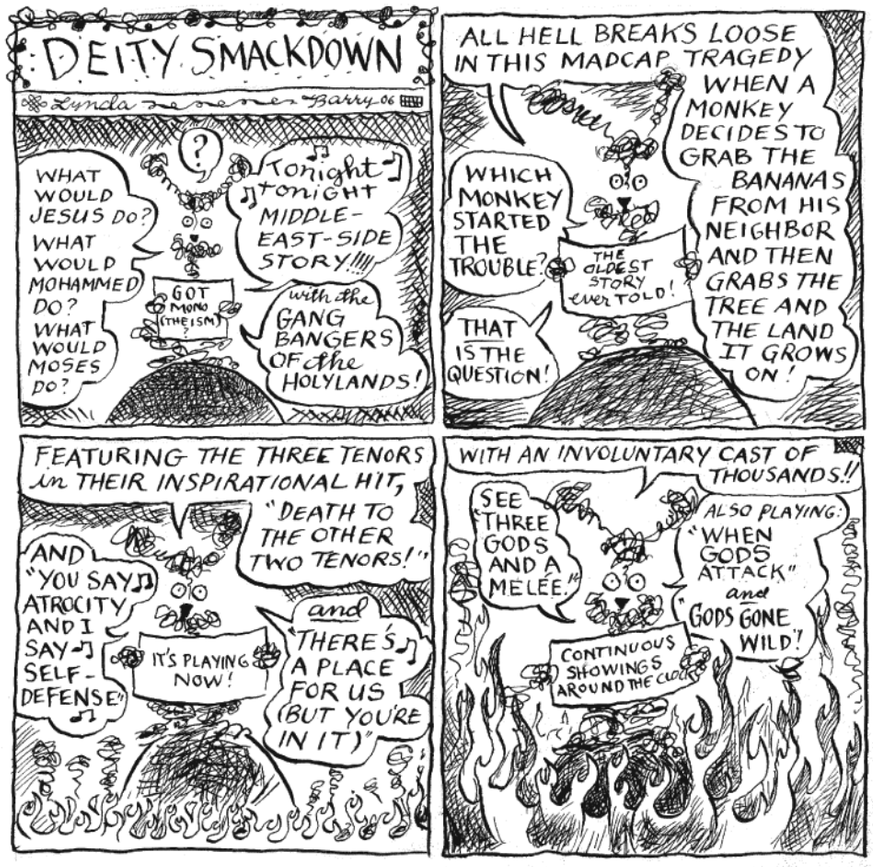
TEAM COVERAGE OF THE CRISIS

BY LLOYD DANGLE



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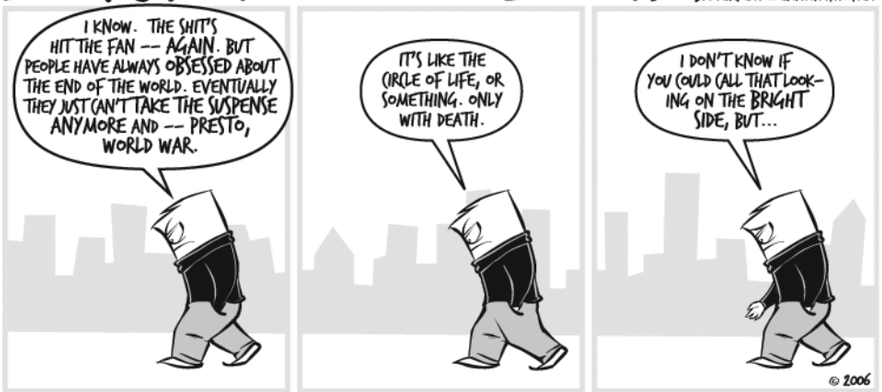
DEITY SMACKDOWN



BITTER YETI IN THE CITY

BY JASON STOUT

BITTERYETI@EARTHLINK.NET



MR. SMARTY PANTS KNOWS



At Belladonna Fairy Camp in Berkeley, Calif., children learn to perceive auras with clairvoyant counselors.

In 1847, Dr. Nathan Keep – a dentist – became the first person to administer anesthesia for childbirth. He used ether, and the patient was Frances "Fanny" Appleton, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's second wife, who was in labor with her third child.

Katz's delicatessen of New York coined the slogan, "Send a salami to your boy in the Army," during World War II.

The effect of soot in the air over the Indian Ocean is some 10 times that of greenhouse gases, according to researchers. The pollution causes the air to absorb more sunlight, warming the atmosphere, and cooling the surface beneath.

The majority of the universe is dark energy.

The above is information that Mr. Smarty Pants read in a book, a magazine, or the newspaper; heard on the radio; saw on television; or overheard at a party. Got facts? Write to Mr. Smarty Pants at the Chronicle, or e-mail **mrpants@austinchronicle.com.**

TRADE UP CLASSIFIEDS

454-5767

austinchronicle.com/tradeup

100 JOBS
110 Art/Design
115 Beauty/Salon/Spa
120 Entertainment/ Casting
125 General
130 Healthcare
135 Hospitality
140 Legal
145 Office/Clerical
150 Non-Profit
155 Professional
160 Research Study
165 Retail
170 Sales/Marketing
175 School/Training
180 Technical

200 HOUSING
210 Reader Notice
215 Apartments/ Condo/Townhome
220 Duplex/Houses
225 Vacation
230 Commercial
235 Roommates
240 Real Estate For Sale

300 BUY/SELL/ TRADE
310 Antiques/ Collectibles
315 Appliances
320 Baby/Kids Stuff
325 Clothing
330 Computers
335 Electronics
340 Free Stuff
345 Furniture
350 Garage/ Estate Sales
355 General
360 Jewelry/ Accessories
365 Pets/Pet Supplies
370 Recreational
375 Tickets/ Entertainment
380 Tools
385 Trades
390 Wanted to Buy

400 SERVICES
410 Business
415 Computers
420 Counseling
425 Health/Wellness
430 Home
435 Financial
440 Fitness/Training
445 Legal
450 Licensed Massage
455 Psychic/Astrology
460 Travel
465 Miscellaneous

500 NOTICES
510 Activites
515 Classes/Workshops
520 Discussion Groups
525 Events
530 General
535 Lost & Found
540 Volunteers
545 Legal Notices

600 MOTOR
610 Cars
615 Trucks
620 SUV's
625 Motorcycles
630 Recreational
635 Parts
640 Repairs

700 MUSIC
710 Equipment for Sale
715 Music Instruction
720 Musicians Available
725 Musicians Wanted
730 Recording Studios
735 Rentals/Services
740 Shameless Promotion

PERSONALS
Lovers Lane
Easy Street
Shot in the Dark
Messages

Please check your ad for accuracy the first time it runs. The Austin Chronicle is not responsible for copy errors after the first week of publication. The Austin Chronicle's liability for errors is limited to the cost of the space occupied by the error, with a maximum liability of republication. Corrections must be submitted by Tuesday, 5pm.

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-6pm
Deadlines: Tuesday, 12pm
Phone: 512-454-5767
Email: classifieds@austinchronicle.com



110 ART/DESIGN

ART

AUSTIN ROCKS

$300-$800/wk. TO START

Expanding Art Co. seeks 10 enthusiastic people who like to work w/ other fun guys & gals. Must like $, music & travel. No exp. nec. Mgmt. training avail. For immediate interview,

Call 512-926-7300 ext. 3

115 BEAUTY SALON/SPA

HAIRSTYLIST CENTRAL AUSTIN HAIR STUDIO. Build Your Business Now.Parking. Ph 576-4683.SO-LA District.

HAIRSTYLIST/ESTHETICIAN Upscale salon & spa in NW Austin has FT/PT positions for hairstylists & estheticians. Lease or commission. Call us at 363-3121.

HAIRSTYLISTS / NAIL TECHS Lease $130/wk.

Downtown location. Lots of walk-ins. 320-5907.

EMPLOYMENT *The Austin Chronicle*'s Employment Section. Better applicants for less money. Call 512-454-5765 to place your ad today!

MANAGER/COOK/SERVER/ DIRECTOR OF SALES & MARKETING

LAKEWAY

Looking for qualified applicants to fill the following positions:

- Conference Services Manager
- CookII
- Servers
- Pastry Cook
- Director of Sales & Marketing

Full time & Seasonal positions available, Medical, Dental, & Vision coverage, 401K, Paid Vacation.

Apply in person M-F 8:30am-4:30pm **Lakeway Resort & Spa,** 101 Lakeway Drive, Austin. Fax resumes to **512-261-7390** Email: **dalia.galindo@dolce.com**

Dolce International is an EOE.

STYLISTS/MANAGEMENT

Join the Fastest Growing Salon Group in Texas!

New Location Opening September, in Round Rock/ Hutto.

- $10/Hr. Guaranteed
- Plus Commissions!
- Health Insurance Benefits
- Paid Vacations
- 401K Savings Plan
- Flexible Hours
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Call Janine @ 512-876-9360

www.Sportclips.com/stylists

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120 ENTERTAINMENT CASTING

ACTORS Dancers, Models for summer projects. All experiences. Call 892-4852.

MODELS for biker calendar. Party girls for promos. sales@lightningcustoms.com

VOLUNTEERS Looking for a "hot" volunteer opportunity? Contact Jillian at hotsaucefest@yahoo.com by August 25 from more information

125 GENERAL

ACTIVISM • 512-326-5655

Stop Whining and Start a Revolution!!

Wanted: Dedicated Activists **for Social Change**

M-F, 2-10 PM, $375+/wk Bonus, Benes., Pd. Train.

www.texasenvironment.org

ASST. Real Estate Assistant - Full Time. Experience in real estate preferred but not necessary, basic computer skills & understanding Qbooks/ Excel/ Adobe/ ACT plusses, good people/phone skills reqd, strong organization and scheduling skills reqd, $10-$12/hr based on experience + bonuses. Email resumes to tarm27@texas.net

FREE ADS Looking to hire a bartender? Have an apartment you need to rent? Want to advertise your handyman skills? All you need to do is go online to **www.austinchronicle.com/classifieds** and post your ad for FREE. Make it stand out with pictures! Highlight it by making it a featured ad! You can even run it in print! Ads run online for 30 days, and are posted immediately. After all, immediate gratification takes too long!

ALL

WE'RE HIRING WHY SAYERS

FOR OUR NEWEST STORE OPENING THIS FALL IN ROUND ROCK, TX

WHY YOU ASK?

(and we hope you do)?

Because people who ask WHY help challenge us to find new ways to do all kinds of things better. And, one of our missions is to always do things better - for our customers, our stores and our co-workers.

HIRING EVENT

SAT-MON, AUG. 5-7
DELL DIAMOND
3400 E. Palm Valley Blvd.
Round Round, TX

If unable to attend, apply at: http://www.ikea.com

We're looking for the following co-workers to make this store our best yet:

• SALES • RESTAURANT
• CASHIERS • WAREHOUSE
• STOCK CONTROL
• LOSS PREVENTION
• MAINTENANCE
• CUSTOMER SERVICE

EOE/Drug-free workplace

IKEA

BALLOON & CAKE DELIVERY

You will be responsible for making balloon bouquets to our standards, picking up, & delivering cakes & balloons in a friendly manner. Deliveries need to be made between 10-3pm Mon.-Fri. & 11-3pm Sat. (closed Sun) We pay per delivery so you don't have set hours or punch a clock. When you're done with that days deliveries, you're done. You use your own car & gas but we pay very well. Please call 1-800-487-1348 to make an appointment for a interview. We will Interview Fri. Aug. 11th.

CARPENTERS Carpenters / Helpers experienced in commercial buildings. Call Monday thru Friday 713-864-0657 Carpinteros / Ayudantes con experiencia en edificios comerciales. Llamar Lunes a Viernes al 713-864-0657.

COPY OPERATORS High speed copier operators wanted. Must have experience. 3 shifts available. Call 472-5353

COPY SHOP HELP 30 individuals needed in campus area copy shop for various positions includeing copy clerk, binding, and computer help. From $7 p/hr. Call 478-3334

DELIVERIES PT newspaper carriers. Early morning hours, 7 days/wk. Earn $400-$700 biweekly. Openings avail. in Austin & surrounding areas. Dependable transport. Call 326-9660. Bilingual req.

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$1,000 Student Sign-On Bonus

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NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED

Earn up to $37,000

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ELECTRICIANS & Helpers with Commercial experience for Austin, TX area. Paid Healthcare, 5 Paid Holidays & Retirement Plan. Call 1-800-470-0555 24hr/7days wk E.O.E.

FRONT DESK Busy holistic clinic located in Westlake seeks bright, energetic front desk multitasker. Applicant must have great sales, scheduling, phone and computer skills and a keen interest in alternative health. Hours are from 8:30-5:00 M-F. Pay based on experience. apply in person at 3001 Bee Cave Rd #210 or email to info@austininternalhealth.com

GENERAL ARE YOU INTO RACING? M.R.P Motor Sport of Austin is looking for Track Workers at our Class 1 Kart Racing facility, Located at: Austin Bergstrom Airport. Call 512-892-4570 for more information www.ironrockraceway.com

High Ropes/Climbing Wall Facilitator. We are an Outdoor Ed. program focusing on academic & adventure courses, working with 4th-9th grade school groups. Located in Marble Falls, about 50 miles NW of Austin. Seeking help facilitating high ropes and climbing wall Tues-Thurs. Paid training. Pay is $60 a day (approx. 6 hrs). Contact Tara Douce at tdouce@outdoorschool.com or call 800-696-3334 ext.239 for more information/hours.=

INSTRUCTORS

HIP-HOP, DANCE, CHEER, or TUMBLING

SELF-DEFENSE/KARATE, GYMNASTICS or STEP COACH

If you have experience in any one of these areas, we are looking for you to teach children ages 4-16 in the Austin & Taylor area 3-4 afternoons 2:30-6pm, some nights available. Responsible applicants only. Must have dependable transportation.

Please call for more info

(210)310-0216

LUNCHROOM/ PLAYGROUND MONITOR

Part time - 10:30-1:30.

$5.15/hr. Casis Elementary 414-2062.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS Outdoor ed. program focusing on academic & adventure courses. Work with 4th-9th graders 5 days/wk. Located on Lake LBJ in TX Hill Country. Dorm-size room and most board provided + $200/wk. Seeking instructors to teach pre-approved curriculum, facilitate low & high ropes and run evening activities. Three weeks paid training! Hiring for Fall season (Aug 6-Dec 9). Contact Tara Douce at tdouce@outdoorschool.com or call 800-696-3334 ext.239. For more info go to www.outdoorschool.com.

WEBSITE

Check out more great ads online! **austinchronicle.com/classifieds**

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PART TIME

Extend-A-Care for Kids

Gain experience with elementary age kids in the afternoons. Apply at

Extend-A-Care for Kids,
55 North IH 35,
www.eackids.org,
or call 472-9929 x408.

Position includes paid ongoing training, and the opportunity to work on 64 school campuses. Starting pay $9.00-$9.60/hr. EOE.

SALES/MANGERS Authorized Cricket store Bilingual Sales Associates and Managers. 602-326-7730 or 210-473-0168

TELEPHONE SURVEYORS

No Sales-Paid Weekly -Flex Scheduling- Call from our phone center in N. Central Austin. Evening & weekend hours. Must read well & have good phone skills. $7 to $9/hr. Call TDM Research after 10 am.

323-6697

TRAVEL COOL TRAVEL JOB!!! One Month Paid Training! $500 Sign on Bonus. Must be free to travel & start today. 1-800-596-0996. (AAN CAN)

WELDER Small business seeks experienced welder. Top pay. Call Casey for more info 512-217-6742.

YOUTH COUNSELOR OUTDOOR YOUTH COUNSELOR. Do you love the outdoors and helping troubled teens? Immediate openings at Eckerd outdoor therapeutic programs in Florida, Tennessee, and North Carolina. Year-round residential position, free room/board, competitive salary/benefits. Info and apply online: http://www.eckerdyouth.org. Or fax resume to Career Advisor/AN, 727-442-5911. (AAN CAN)

130 HEALTHCARE

DIRECT CARE Mental retardation program has openings for Direct Care and PRN staff. Apply in person at 4025 Manchaca Rd., Austin, TX or call 512/891-8285.

HEALTH ATTENDANT

Attention Nursing & Pre-Med majors, seeking energetic & cheerful Home Health Attendants. $11/hr. Will train, all shifts avail. Call Sarah Mon.-Fri. 8am-5pm for appt. No LATE Calls to Clinic Please.

512-371-3036

135 HOSPITALITY

ALL

The Belmont

A soon-to-open Austin restaurant serving classic American cuisine in a comfortable downtown setting, will be accepting applications for the following front and back-of-house positions on Monday, August 7th:

- Waitstaff
- Bartenders
- Hosts
- Doormen
- Barbacks
- Bussers
- Cocktail Waitresses
- Line Cooks

Please apply in person at Hi-Lo bar, 301 W. 6th Street, between 9:30am-11am or 2pm-4pm.

The Belmont is an equal opportunity employer.

ALL

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SOME RESTAURANT COMPANIONSHIP?

Me: Single friendly restaurant, local hang-out for sports junkies and beer enthusiasts, filled with cool managers and entertaining employees. You: Looking for good conversation, like meeting new people, enjoy making lots of money, need a place where your personality is embraced. Pluckers is hiring Servers, Cashiers, Line Cooks & Delivery Drivers No 'FLAIR' required

Apply in Person at any of our Austin locations or apply online at www.pluckers.net.

ALL POSITIONS

Current Employment opportunities:

- Conference Billing Coordinator
- Group Reservation Coordinator
- Reservation Agents
- PBX Operators
- Front Desk Agents
- Bell Staff
- Concierge- PT
- Housekeepers AM/PM
- Banquet Bartenders
- Banquet Waitstaff
- Berverage Cart Attds.
- Laundry Attds.
- Dishwashers
- Camp Counselors
- Nail Technician
- Massage Therapist
- Spa Desk Attd.
- Water Aerobic Instructor
- Kids Club Attd.
- Carpenter
- General Maint. - PM Shift

Apply in person Monday-Friday 8:30-5PM, 8212 Barton Club Drive, Austin, Texas 78735. Email resumes to jobs@bartoncreek.com or fax your information to 512-329-4014. Website: http://www.bartoncreek.com

Barton Creek offers a complete benefits package & competitive wages. EOE

ALL

InterContinental Stephen F. Austin Austin

Open Positions as of August 2, 2006

PBX Operator (PT)
Reservations Agent
Front Desk Agent
Banquet Server (On-Call)
Host (PT)
Housekeeping Houseperson
Room Attendant

We only accept applications for available positions on Wednesday between 9:00 a.m and noon.

The Inter-Continental Stephen F. Austin provides an excellent benefits package, which includes Health/Dental Insurance, 401(K), Short and Long Term disability, Worldwide Employee Discount, Free Shift Meals, and more. Drugscreen & Background checks required.

EOE, D/V, M/F

FREE ADS

Got a car you need to sell?

Looking for a roommate?

Want to unload that old refrigerator?

Got a great idea for a band, but missing some musicians?

All you need to do is go online to **www.austinchronicle.com/classifieds** and post your ad for FREE.

Make it stand out with pictures! Highlight it by making it a featured ad! You can even run it in print! Ads run online for 30 days, and are posted immediately. After all, immediate gratification takes too long!

ALL

Hilton Austin Airport Hotel

We are seeking great individuals to join our winning team!

The Hilton Austin Airport Hotel has the following positions:

- Restaurant Servers (full & part time)
- Restaurant Cashier (part time)
- Banquet Cook (full time)
- Banquet Prep Cook (full time)
- Lead Line Cook (full time)
- Line Prep Cook (full time)
- Dishwasher (part time)
- Houseman Housekeeping

Competitive salary and benefits. Free shift meal.

Apply in person Mon - Wed 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. 9515 New Airport Drive, Austin

EOE/ADA/AA

BARRISTA/COUNTER SERVER Cheerful, exp. only, P/T, must be flexible and be available for weekends. High volume. Apply at Quack's Bakery @ 411 E. 43rd

BARTENDER Up to $300/day. No experience necessary. 1-800-965-6520 x207

BARTENDER/SERVER Manor Downs Turf Club needs Mature responsible dependable adult. Must have transportation. 13hr shifts Call M/W/Th 11-5 272-5581 ext215.

BARTENDERS Many great opportunities. Part time and full time shifts available. Make $200-$300 per shift. No experience is required, training provided. Call (877) 966-9266 ext. 1000. (AAN CAN)

CAKE/COOKIE DECORATOR with commercial exp at a dynamic, fast paced environment. Hours are flexible, can be FT or PT. Please email resume to bakerymail@gmail.com, subject: CAKE

COOKS/DISHWASHERS The Hills of Lakeway Country Club is currently accepting applications for all Food and Beverage positions P/T and F/T avail. Se Habla Espanol. Please call 512-261-7262 for more information

CREW MEMBERS Culver's of Buda is looking for full and part-time enthusiastic crew members with good people skill. Competitive pay, flexible shifts, structured training program. Email your resume to culversbuda@yahoo.com. or call (512)923-5385.

DANCERS & WAITRESSES

The Landing Strip

MAKE BIG $$$

FT/PT, flex. sched., no exp. nec., 745 Bastrop Hwy, one mile from the airport.

385-2878.

DELIVERY

BIG TIPS!! LUNCH, DINNER & WEEKEND SHIFTS

Make the mo$t of your time Deliver food from Austin's best restaurants Earn up to $15 per hour - Paid Daily- Must be 21 Call 241-3752 or Email:

eoi.laney@yahoo.com

DELIVERY DRIVERS/COOK PIZZA CLASSICS: Now Hiring Delivery Drivers, Up to $15/hr. Also hiring cook. Please Call 320-8080 after 4PM.

DELIVERY MGR. Needed

Established store. Work directly with owner (no Corporate BS) No 70hr/wk, no $6 p/hr "salary". Good schedule flexibility, Central & Safe delivery area. Compensation based on exp. Apply in person 1-4pm Pizza Nizza 2712 Bee Cave Rd #106

JOIN THE FASTEST GROWING SALON GROUP IN TEXAS!

NEW LOCATION OPENING IN SEPTEMBER, IN ROUND ROCK / HUTTO

- $10/hour Guaranteed
- Plus Commissions!
- Health Insurance Benefits
- Paid Vacations
- 401K Savings Plan
- Flexible Hours
- Continuing Education
- No Chemicals - Just Great Cuts!
- MANAGEMENT OPENINGS ALSO!

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Company-Paid CDL Training

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$1,000 Student Sign-On Bonus

No Experience Needed

Earn up to $37,000/1st yr

P.A.M. TRANSPORT

Driver Training Hotline
1-877-825-8645
Apply Online at:
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WORK AT A PLACE WHERE YOU'LL ACTUALLY WANT TO EAT THE FOOD.

Chipotle (pronounced chi-POAT-lay) serves fresh, gourmet burritos and tacos at reasonable prices in a cool atmosphere. Here's your chance to get in on the ground floor of the hottest new restaurant company in town.

For our new location, we're looking to fill full and part-time positions:

LINE SERVERS
COOKS
CASHIERS
KITCHEN MANAGERS

Apply in person at Milwood Chipotle from 8am-7pm:
6301 W. Parmer Lane
Austin, TX 78729

Chipotle®
GOURMET BURRITOS & TACOS
An Equal Opportunity Employer

WE'RE HIRING WHY SAYERS

IKEA®



For Our Newest Store Opening This Fall in Round Rock, TX

WHY you ask (and we hope you do)?

Because people who ask WHY help challenge us to find new ways to do all kinds of things better. And, one of our missions is to always do things better - for our customers, our stores and our co-workers.

Join us for our hiring event
Saturday-Monday, Aug 5-7
(10am-7pm) at
Dell Diamond
3400 E. Palm Valley Blvd.
Round Rock, TX

If you are unable to attend, apply online www.ikea.com

So, if you're a WHY-sayer in the most positive and constructive way, please go to: http://jobsat.ikea-usa.com/us and click on "Search for Jobs". Qualified candidates will then be invited to interview in the near future.

We're looking for the following co-workers to make this store our best yet:

- SALES
- RESTAURANT
- CASHIERS
- WAREHOUSE
- STOCK CONTROL
- LOSS PREVENTION
- MAINTENANCE
- CUSTOMER SERVICE

An equal opportunity employer/ Drug-free workplace

www.IKEA.com

CONTINUED

135 HOSPITALITY

DRIVERS Now hiring drivers at McAlister's Deli. Great for student or second income. Part-time.
Apply in person M-F, 2-5. 2765 Bee Caves Rd.
Call 347-8646.

ENTERTAINERS & WAITSTAFF
If you have a fun loving attitude & enjoy a party atmosphere, then you love it here. Plan your summer job now! Flexible Hours, Training and Big $$$$$!
SEEKING OUTGOING, ENERGETIC PEOPLE
AM & PM WAITSTAFF, ENTERTAINERS
No Exp. Necessary
Part Time or Full Time
Flexible Schedules
AM or PM Shifts
Fun Job!
Great Money!
SUGARS
Uptown Cabaret
451-1711
404 Highland Mall Blvd

ENTERTAINERS
JOY
MAKE LOTS OF MONEY!
and have lots of fun as an **Entertainer or Waitress** at Joy of Austin Men's Club. No experience necessary. Will train. Apply in person, Exit 250 IH35. 218-8012.

SERVERS Servers- 1 yr. min. exp. Las Palomas Restaurant & Bar, Westwood Shopping Center, 3201 Bee Caves #122. Apply in Person,
Tues.- Sat.

SERVERS Needed. Mongolian Grille Downtown, 183 North, & Round Rock. 203-4827, or Apply In Person.

WAITSTAFF Redbud Bar & Grille. West Lake/Bee Cave Rd at Walsh Tarlton. www.redbudgrille.com

WAITSTAFF
360 Uno is now hiring
full-time waitstaff for the COOLEST coffee-house/ wine-bar in town!

3801 Capital of Texas N. #G100. Apply at mail@360uno.com or call 512-327-5505

WAITSTAFF
La Morada
Mexican Restaurant
Have fun at work and bank some cash, flexible hours. No exp. necessary. Apply for our team at 12407 N. Mopac Expy (next to HEB) or call 836-6611

145 OFFICE/CLERICAL

ADMIN ASSISTANT
Administrative Assistant for small downtown law office. Part time. Proficient in Mac OS. Starts $10 - $12/hr. Email to robin@robincravey.com.

FULL TIME OFFICE ASST.
Needed for the management company of a growing group of businesses (restaurants, service, construction). The ideal candidate will possess the following:
- Experience with filing, creating systems, organizing, and time-mgmt
- Self-starter who does not need a lot of direction
- Experience with Quickbooks preferred
- Must have office assistant experience

Send resume and cover letter menright@uchiaustin.com, or fax to 512-478-1645.

GOVERNMENT JOBS $12-48/Hr. Full Benefits/Paid Training. Work available in areas like Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Wildlife, More! 1-800-320-9353 x2001. (AAN CAN)

150 NON-PROFIT

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JOBS TO DEFEAT THE REPUBLICANS
$300-$500/Week
Had enough of Bush and the Republicans? Work on behalf of the National Democratic Party to elect Democrats this fall.
Leadership Positions Available. Call Charles,
512-944-2191

ACTIVISM
Fight Bush, make a difference. Help the Dems, HRC, Amnesty Int'l, PFAW, and others! Up to $16/hr w/ guaranteed base, Flexible PT & FT schedules.
Call 916-4001 for interviews www.Telefund.com

ACTIVISM
SUMMER JOBS
For
THE ENVIRONMENT
$300-$500/Week
- **Work with great people!**
- **Career Opportunities & Benefits.**

Call Chris at 479-9804

VOLUNTEERS VOLUNTEER IN AFRICA Teach & AIDS outreach 14 months including training in CA. Teams start Aug & Oct & in spring 07! Fees/grants 510-637-9698 www.cctg.org

155 PROFESSIONAL

ADVERTISING SALES
THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE is looking for a Classified Advertising Account Representative to join our sales team.
The ideal candidate must be a self-starter with the ability to cold call. Candidates must have strong customer service and organizational skills.
Basic computer and typing skills required. In return, you will be rewarded with a fast and fun work environment, paid vacation and holidays.
The Chronicle offers health insurance and a 401(k) program. First year earning potential between $25K-$30K.
Please fax resume to:
512-458-6910 or email cassidy@austinchronicle.com.
No phone calls please.

160 RESEARCH STUDY

BIPOLAR
Volunteers needed with Bipolar I Disorder Who are currently experiencing a Manic or Mixed Episode
Volunteers are being sought to participate in a research study of an investigational medication being evaluated in combination with medications for the long-term maintenance of manic or mixed symptoms of Bipolar I Disorder.

To be eligible for this Clinical Research Study the subject must:
* Be at least 18 years of age
* Have Bipolar I Disorder
* Have current manic or mixed symptoms

All study medication, lab work, study related treatments and doctor visits will be provided to the subject at no charge.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:
512-407-8628
Larisa Schertz
Senior Adults Specialty Research
3215 Steck Ave., Suite 202
Austin, TX 78757

BIPOLAR STUDY
Feeling lost about your SCHIZOPHRENIA treatment?

THIS MEDICAL RESEARCH STUDY MAY INTEREST YOU.

It is estimated that approximately 2.2 million people in the United States alone struggle with schizophrenia. Although there are current treatments available for this condition, most of these treatments are only partially effective and include unpleasant side effects.

Today, local doctors are evaluating a novel, investigational treatment that could someday help patients struggling with schizophrenia.

You may pre-qualify for this study if you:
Are between 18 and 70 years of age, AND
Have been diagnosed with schizophrenia or a schixoaffective disorder by a medical doctor for at least 6 months, AND
Have not needed inpatient treatment for your illness in the past 3 months

Qualified participants will receive a study-related medical evaluation and theinvestigational medication at no cost. Reimbursement for time and travel will also be provided.

To Learn More about this local study, please contact, FutureSearch Trials at 517-4658

BIPOLAR DEPRESSION
DO YOU...
- Feel sad or anxious
- Have feelings of hopelessness
- Feeel tired, lack energy or are unmotivated
- Have difficulty concentrating or making decisions
- Feel restless or irritable
- No longer have interest in once pleasurable activities

IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING SOME OF THESE, YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR A RESEARCH STUDY.
Some qualifications are:
- Aged 18 to 65 years
- Non Substance/Alcohol Dependent
- Using Reliable Contraceptive
- Not Pregnant or Lactating
- Non Diabetic

For more information, please contact:
Community Clinical Research
(512)323-2622
(512) 323-2622
http://www.communityclinical.com

FREE ADS Got a car you need to sell? Looking for a roommate? Want to unload that old refrigerator? Got a great idea for a band, but missing some musicians? All you need to do is go online to **www.austinchronicle.com/classifieds** and post your ad for FREE. Make it stand out with pictures! Highlight it by making it a featured ad! You can even run it in print! Ads run online for 30 days, and are posted immediately. After all, immediate gratification takes too long!

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Enthusiastic and professional individuals are invited to apply to teach English conversation to adults and children at one of our 300+ schools throughout Japan. A Bachelor's Degree and perfect command of English are required. Japanese language or teaching experience not necessary.

Interviewing in Austin the week of Sept. 24. Application deadline 9/15. We provide a work visa, paid training; a subsidized, furnished private apartment; basic medical insurance, 3 weeks' paid vacation, cash bonus, and airfare home at contract completion.

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The Architecture of Collaboration. Expertise in Collaboration.

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We are currently seeking talented candidates to join our Austin team who have experience or a professional interest in one of the following industry sectors:

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Technology
Media
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We seek bright, positive and flexible people with undergraduate and graduate degrees who:

Act with the highest integrity and professionalism all their endeavors
Possess superior communication, analytical and problem-solving skills
Think creatively and focus on opportunities for growth, and lead others to do the same
Express a strong desire to work in a team
Demonstrate the ability and initiative to handle increasing responsibility over time

We offer a competitive salary and benefits plan including medical, dental, and 401K. Gerson Lehrman Group is an equal opportunity employer. To find out more, please visit our website at **www.glgroup.com**. To apply, please email your cover letter and resume to **jobs@glgroup.com**.

Hilton

Hilton Austin Airport Hotel
We are seeking great individuals to join our winning team!
The Hilton Austin Airport Hotel has the following positions

Restaurant Servers (part time)
Restaurant Cashier (part time)
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Banquet Prep Cook (full time)
Lead Line Cook (full time)
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Dishwasher (part time)
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Competitive salary and benefits. Free shift meal.
Apply in person Mon-Wed 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
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Healthy and Getting a Good Night's Sleep?

Participate in a research study at FutureSearch Trials, where an investigational sleep medication is being evaluated. We need participants aged 21 to 30 years without any current sleep problems to take part for 2-5 weeks; one overnight stay will be required.

Compensation of up to $440 will be given for all study-related time and travel.

zzzzz zzzzzz

For information, call:
FutureSearch Trials
512-374-0881

BLUE WING FREIGHT SERVICES

RAPIDLY EXPANDING FREIGHT FORWARDING COMPANY

We are currently hiring Owner/Operators in Dallas, Houston, and Austin. We have openings for both local and regional drivers. Regional drivers home most nights, and all weekends.

- Must have 1 yr experience
- Must have good MVR

NEED BOBTAILS, TRACTORS & CARGO VANS

Call Dispatch : (972)245-1760

Volunteers needed with Bipolar I Disorder who are currently experiencing a Manic or Mixed Episode

Volunteers are being sought to participate in a research study of an investigational medication being evaluated in combination with medications for the long-term maintenance of manic or mixed symptoms of Bipolar I Disorder.

To be eligible for this Clinical Research Study the subject must:

- **Be at least 18 years of age**
- **Have Bipolar I Disorder**
- **Have current manic or mixed symptoms**

All study medications, lab work, study related treatments and doctor visits will be provided at no charge.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT

512-407-8628

Larisa Schertz, RN
Senior Adults Specialty Research
3215 Steck Ave. Suite 202
Austin, TX 78757



research STUDIES



Men and Women with asthma, atopic dermatitis, or allergic rhinitis

A clinical research trial is being conducted to study the effects of a nutritional supplement on your asthma, atopic dermatitis or allergic rhinitis.

To Qualify You Must Be:
- 18 to 65 years of age
- Willing to make 4 clinic visits

Qualified Participants May Receive:
- Study-related nutritional supplement or placebo
- Study-related laboratory and physical examinations
- Financial compensation is available for time and travel

Contact us for more information...
Phone: (512) 732-2444
FAX: (512) 732-2446
studies@metaclin.com
WWW.METACLIN.COM

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BIPOLAR DEPRESSION



Do you...

- Feel sad or anxious
- Have feelings of hopelessness
- Feel tired, lack energy or are unmotivated
- Have difficulty concentrating or making decisions
- Feel restless or irritable
- No longer have interest in once pleasurable activities

If you are experiencing some of these, you may be eligible for a research study.

Some qualifications are:
- Aged 18 to 65 years
- Non Substance/Alcohol Dependent
- Using Reliable Contraceptive
- Not Pregnant or Lactating
- Non Diabetic

For more information, please contact:
Community Clinical Research at 512.323.2622

Do you think you may have swimmer's ear?



Swimmer's ear (otitis externa) occurs when there is an infection or inflammation of the ear canal. When water, sand, debris, or dirt gets trapped in the ear canal it can cause an infection. A painful, swollen and red ear canal could be symptoms that you have swimmer's ear.

Benchmark Research is currently conducting a study of an investigational medication for swimmer's ear. Participants must be 12 years of age or older, and must currently be suffering from the symptoms of swimmer's ear.

Study-related office visits, study procedures, and study medication may be provided at no cost.

Compensation up to $200 will be paid to eligible participants for their time and travel.

Contact Benchmark Research
1-800-369-2875
For More Information

BENCHMARK RESEARCH
www.benchmarkresearch.net

CONTINUED

160 RESEARCH STUDY

SWIMMERS EAR

DO YOU THINK YOU MAY HAVE SWIMMER'S EAR?

Swimmer's ear (otitis externa) occurs when there is an infection or inflammation of the ear canal. When water, sand, debris, or dirt gets trapped in the ear canal it can cause an infection. A painful, swollen and red ear canal could be symptoms that you have swimmer's ear.

Benchmark Research is currently conducting a study of an investigational medication for swimmer's ear. Participants must be 12 years of age or older, and must currently be suffering from the symptoms of swimmer's ear.

Study-related office visits, study procedures, and study medication may be provided at no cost.

Compensation up to $200 will be paid to eligible participants for their time and travel.

For More Information Contact Benchmark Research

1-800-369-2875

http://www.benchmarkresearch.net

BENCHMARK RESEARCH

NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENT

MEN AND WOMEN WITH ASTHMA, ATOPIC DERMATITIS, OR ALLERGIC RHINITIS

A clinical research trial is being conducted to study the effects of a nutritional supplement on your asthma, atopic dermatitis or allergic rhinitis.

To Qualify You Must Be:

- 18 to 65 years of age
- Willing to make 4 clinic visits

Qualified Participants May Receive:

- Study-related nutritional supplement or placebo
- Study-related laboratory and physical examinations
- Financial compensation is available for time and travel

Contact us for more information MetaClin Research

http://www.metaclin.com

studies@metaclin.com

(512) 732-2444

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DONOR PROGRAM

SEMEN DONORS NEEDED

Fairfax Cryobank seeks college educated men 18-39 to participate in 6 month donor program. Avg. $150 per specimen. Call today for free application or apply online at http://www.123donate.com.

SLEEP MEDICATION

Healthy & Getting a Good Night's Sleep?

Participate in a research study at FutureSearch Trails, where an investigational sleep medication is being evaluated. We need participants ages 21 to 50 years without any current sleep problems to take part for 2-5 weeks; one overnight stay will be required.

Compensation of up to $440 will be given for all study-related time and travel.

For information call:

FUTURESEARCH TRIALS

512-374-0881

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Is a full-line Vending, Office Coffee and Dining Services Company with operations in the Southwest. We are currently looking for a Business Development Manager (sales representative) to join our sales department team at our Austin branch. If you are interested in pursuing this opportunity with a leader in the vending industry, visit our website at www.customfoodgroup.com

EOE, M/F/D/V,
Drug Free Employer
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NO PHONE CALLS

MARKETING ASSISTANT Lone Star Roofing pays $50-$100 for referrals that contract with us. Dan 844-9598

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WINE SALES ASSOCIATE Wine Distribution Sales Associate wanted for the greater Austin area. Call 972-385-5860 or fax resume to 972-385-5961.

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WORK WITH THE BEST RECEIVE PAID BENEFITS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Austin's leading Comprehensive Child Development/Early Education Program is accepting applications for the following positions:

- **RESOURCES TEACHERS & TEACHER'S AIDES** High School or GED, some social services and reliable transportation
- **FOOD SERVICE WORKER** High school diploma or GED. Reliable transportation.

All applicants must be at least 18 years of age.

- **SECRETARY** high school diploma or GED. Reliable transportation, office exp. a +
- VISITING TEACHERS Bilingual, social service experience needed, some college preferred

Apply in person at
Child Inc.: 818 E. 53rd St., Austin, TX 78751
EOE

TABC SELLER/SERVER CERTS. AT HOME DVD/VHS $35. No classroom. 24/7 phone testing. Call 452-5533

180 TECHNICAL

COMPUTER/IT -

Application Engineer. IBM Corporation, Austin, TX.

Support the efforts of designers engaged in the development of tools used to extract data for the physical design of microprocessors and integrated circuits.

Develop new features for the tools to provide optimum solutions to the design team using Korn shell programming, Perl, FrontPage, Javascript, and HTML. Master's degree or equivalent in Computer Science, MIS, or Engineering and one year of experience as a Software Engineer or Software Support Engineer.

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2/2 $679 3/2 $749
Apartment Experts
416-8100 Broker
ApartmentExperts.com

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CONCRETE FLOORS!
RAW & MODERN!

Warehouse-style apartments with exposed metal accents. All new appliances including Jacuzzi jet tub in each unit! Musician/Artist-friendly.

1BDRM... $569

2BDRM/2BA... $739

5BDRM... $1369

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http://www.austindowntownliving.com

TEAM LEASING

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1-1 $599
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CENTRAL small courtyard, pool, Trees, and covered parking $525. Apt Experts 416-8100 Broker.

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Gated, Pool
Huge Floor Plans
Cable Paid, Ceramic Tile
1/1 $505
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CENTRAL Eclectic old school Austin! Walk to auditorium shores and soco dining 1bd $650 ,2bd $850. NOW. 258-8224

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LoneStar Realty Group

CENTRAL http://austincool.com 693-7231 Town Lake view, SoCo shops/restaurants/nightlife, $645.

CENTRAL TARRYTOWN, Unique, Spacious two bedroom apartment. 1023 sq.ft. Large bedrooms with lots of closet space. CACH, Ceiling Fans, Full Kitchen with built-in mirco & dishwasher, Ceramic tile in Bathroom, Pergo floors and Brick Accent wall in living room. On-site Laundry and Pool. Includes Cable. $950. 2600 Enfield Rd. 451-0414.

CENTRAL $0 Deposit! UT Shuttle. Jr.1-1 $465, 2 bedroom $775. Cheap Bills! www.apartmentlocating.com 692-4525

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Austin's Nicest
NEWEST DOWNTOWN PROPERTIES $965+
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CENTRAL ECLECTIC DOWNTOWN LOFT, big dogs ok!! A+, 231-1400, Broker

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Beautifully landscaped, Remodeled, WOOD FLOORS! 1/1 $650, 2/2 $775
LSR 326-5757.

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SEXY DOWNTOWN LOFTS in the heart of the warehouse district, hardwoods/stained concrete floors, 16ft ceilings, great views.

See narrated video tour and pictures/floorplans for this property @ http://www.Austinapartmentstore.com or call 828-4470 for current availability.

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***The Austin Chronicle* is looking for a Classified Advertising Account Representative to join our sales team.**

The ideal candidate must be a self-starter with the ability to cold call. Candidates must have strong customer service and organizational skills. Basic computer and typing skills required. In return you will be rewarded with a fast and fun work environment, paid vacation and holidays.

The *Chronicle* offers health insurance and a 401(k) program. First year earning potential between $25K- $30K.

Please fax résumé to
512-458-6910
or email:
cassidy@austinchronicle.com.

No phone calls please.

CHRONICLE **austinchronicle.com**

EVENTS STAGE MANAGER

The University of Texas at Austin Performing Arts Center

Major performing arts center seeks part-time Event Stage Managers to supervise stage and event activities, serve as liaison between PAC staff, vendors and presenters, and to cover backstage operations during performances. For more info and to apply, please send resumes to jrandel@mail.utexas.edu

Security sensitive; conviction verification conducted on applicant selected.

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

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HIP-HOP, DANCE, CHEER, or SELF-DEFENSE/KARATE, or TUMBLING, GYMNASTICS, STEP COACH



If you have experience in any one of these areas, we are looking for you to teach children ages 4-16 in the Austin & Taylor area 3-4 afternoons 2:30-6pm, some nights available. Responsible applicants only. Must have dependable transportation.

Please call for more information **(210)310-0216**

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- Golf Attds.
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- Banquet Bartenders
- Beverage Cart Attds.
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- Front Desk Agent
- Dishwashers
- Laundry Attds.
- Housekeepers – AM/PM
- Kids Club Attd.
- Nail Technician
- Spa Desk Attd.
- Retail Shop Attd.
- Carpenter

Apply in person Monday - Friday 8:30am-5pm, 8212 Barton Club Dr. Austin, Tx 78735.

Résumés can be e-mailed to
jobs@bartoncreek.com
or fax your information to 512-329-4014.
Web site: **http://www.bartoncreek.com**

BARTON CREEK OFFERS A COMPLETE BENEFITS PACKAGE & COMPETITIVE WAGES.

WORK WITH THE BEST RECEIVE PAID BENEFITS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Austin's leading Comprehensive Child Development/ Early Education Program is accepting applications for the following positions:

- **TEACHER** Degree in EC, CD or CDA. Reliable Transportation. Some Experience Preferred
- **RESOURCES TEACHERS & TEACHER'S AIDES** High School Diploma or GED. Reliable Transportation. Some Experience Preferred
- **FOOD SERVICE WORKER** High School Diploma or GED. Reliable Transportation. Some Food Service Experience Preferred.
- **SECRETARY** High School Diploma or GED. Reliable Transportation, Office Exp. a Plus
- **VISITING TEACHERS** Bilingual, social service experience needed, some college preferred

All applicants must be at least 18 years of age. Apply in person at **Evins Personnell, 2013 W. Anderson Lane, Austin, TX 78757 512-454-9561** EOE

LOOKING FOR A HOT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY?

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE HOT SAUCE FESTIVAL 2006

Contact Jillian by August 25 for information at hotsaucefest@yahoo.com

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$200 OFF FIRST MONTH!

Enjoy apartment living in a residential neighborhood. Close to eateries, grocery stores, sports/health centers. Walk/Bike/bus to campus.

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Hidden Gem, Fitness, Gated

1 BR $490

2 BR $700

Apartmentexperts.com

416-8100 Broker

CENTRAL FAR WEST FIRE SALE! 1 Month FREE! UT Shuttle! HUGE! $675+ www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

CENTRAL

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•EFF-$439, $0 dep, $0 app, it's gold! Free Cable

•1BR-$449, private lake & tanning bed

•2BR-$535 Free Cable

•3BR-$799, W/D conn. 2 pools

•4BR-$850 are you kidding me?

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Specializing in difficult situations, immediate move-ins, luxury, downtown & cheap rent. You name it, I will find it with no problem mon! Available Weekends too...so call now, mon. ***512-293-7443***

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Fast, Friendly, & FREE!

CENTRAL 693-7231 http://austincool.com Greenbelt trail at door, W/D incl, walk to shops/restaurants $610.

CENTRAL STUDIO $425, water paid! Call Today Agent 512.241.1111 email lease@aptsaus.com

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Desperate Campus/Hyde Park Owners seek tenants. from $395.

SO/CO ALL BILLS PAID from $650

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LoneStar Realty Group

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See narrated video tours and thousands of pictures & floor plans to hundreds of properties at:

http://www.Austinapartmentstore.com

- Anywhere in Austin area.
- Any price range.
- Best specials.
- Fast friendly service.
- We can email pictures & floor plans to the hottest specials in town.

Give us a call at 828-4470.

CENTRAL http://austin-cool.com 693-7231 Hidden Zilker treasure, cute & quiet, small property, W/D, hear birds sing, $660. Large dogs!

CENTRAL Barton Creek Canyon- Free Washer/Dryers! Fantastic upgrade program just completed. Accent colors, colonial doors, Euro cabinets, crown molding, corner fireplaces, huge home office. Internet access, hot tub. Private decks & patios. Slant Swiss style cielings. On the hike & bike trailhead.

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Multi-level Lofts. Garage parking, Downtown views, Hardwood and concrete floors Now@ausapts.com 258-8224.

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CENTRAL MARKET UPTOWN. Nice small community ! 1-1, $599. 2BR, $799. Now@ausapts.com 258-8224.

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Call 512-293-7443 ronjontheapartmentmon@hotmail.com

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Small Community

2/1 $800 Cable Paid

2/2 1277 sf., carpet, $925

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CENTRAL Back to school SPECIAL 1/2 Month FREE rent. Walk to campus. Guaranteed Parking 502/504 Elmwood (@Duval) LARGE efficiencies $525 CA/CH gas & water paid, one ALL BILLS PAID $575, 500 Elmwood 1/1 $650, cat friendly (NO DOGS) laundry on site Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, matthewsproperties@yahoo.com

CENTRAL SUPER SWANKY LUXURY LIVING! Concrete Floors, $1100+, Call 512.241.1111 Agent.

CENTRAL

CAMPUS

- Efficiency $400, 1-1 $500
- 2-2 $639, 1010 s.f. UT Bus

SOUTH

- Studio $415, • 2 Bedroom Townhome $625. Large Patio 1-1 $465 Great Location.
- Greenbelt: 2 BD $610

Bad Credit? Broken Leases? Felonies? Big Dogs? OK!

Call Ray Day at Flat Finders

(512) 496-3725

CENTRAL http://austin-cool.com 693-7231 Barton Hills 2BDRM, wooded creekview, W/D, large dogs! $790.

CENTRAL ** LAKE TRAVIS LIVING.1/1$502, 2br$650, 3br$823 Call Agent 512.241.1111 lease@aptsaus.com

CENTRAL Barton Creek hideaway! Zilker at your doorstep. Secluded creekside property is a heaven for those that want tranquilty. Architected designed with you in mind. Energy efficient program. Majestic Texas oaks shade this Austin favorite where coming home is a pleasure. Spilt modern floorplans with angled walls. $600-$950. First Call

448-4854 FirstCallAustin.com

CENTRAL 2 Bedroom Blowout! Right On Town Lake recently remodeled nice $700+ Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

CENTRAL 4401 Speedway condo, 1/1, small quiet community, close to UT campus & dwntown, laundry facility onsite, $695. 474-1470 Brad@beckandco.com Beck & Co.

CENTRAL **SUPER

MODERN ART DECO. 5 min from DT. Call for pics and Floorplans! Agent 512.241.1111 email lease@aptsaus.com

CENTRAL creek atmosphere $199 first months rent. 1/1 $550 2/1 $650. Cable, water, waste water & trash paid. Apt Experts Broker 416-8100.

CENTRAL Walk to Zilker Park/Aud. Shores. Tile/stone/wood floors floors, 1bd $675 2bd $950. NOW. 258-8224

CENTRAL

78704

1 Month FREE

$99 Deposit + App.

HARDWOOD STYLE

2/2 BEDROOM SPECIAL $649

Apartment Experts

416-8100 Broker

ApartmentExperts.com

CENTRAL ZILKER! Concrete Floors $670. 2/1 $890! Agent 512.241.1111 email lease@aptsaus.com

CENTRAL

LOFTS & TOWNHOMES

1/1 Barton Springs Loft $625.

2/1.5 Travis Heights Townhome $750

2/1.5 South Central Townhomes $725.

W/D connections

LSR, 326-5757.

LoneStar Realty Group

CENTRAL Best Deal, Eff $499, 1-1 $499, 2-2 $799, water/gas paid. avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

CENTRAL Hyde Park - Cozy One Bedroom with Patio. 450 sf. 4205 Speedway. Paid

Water. On-site Laundry.

451-0414.

CENTRAL ** CANOES,DUCKS,VIEWS! Studio $575, 1/1 $645, 2br $775, 3br$910. Agent 512.241.1111 email lease@aptsaus.com

CENTRAL Lakeside near Pleasant Valley. $99 Total Move-in. Art Deco stained concrete. 1/1 $509, 2/2 $609. Apt Experts

416-8100.

CENTRAL Elite Living - Elegant Interiors,concrete, hardwoods, kitchen islands $1135+ must see!Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

CENTRAL 31st & Guadalupe new 2bd/2bath condo, 2 parking, W/D, many upgrades. $2000/mo. 626-3794

CENTRAL Bel Air Condos! So. Congress, New! three story condo with roof top patio! 2/1.5/2G, modern technology construction, all appliances, Track lighting, concrete floors, views $2195!! Carrie, Broker

801-0436. Austin Real Pros, REALTORSR 458-3430

CENTRAL http://austin-cool.com 693-7231 South Central, walk downtown, hike/bike trail, large dogs, $645.

CENTRAL http://austin-cool.com 693-7231 Dwntwn SoCo huge funky studio, nightlife at door! $800 ABP.

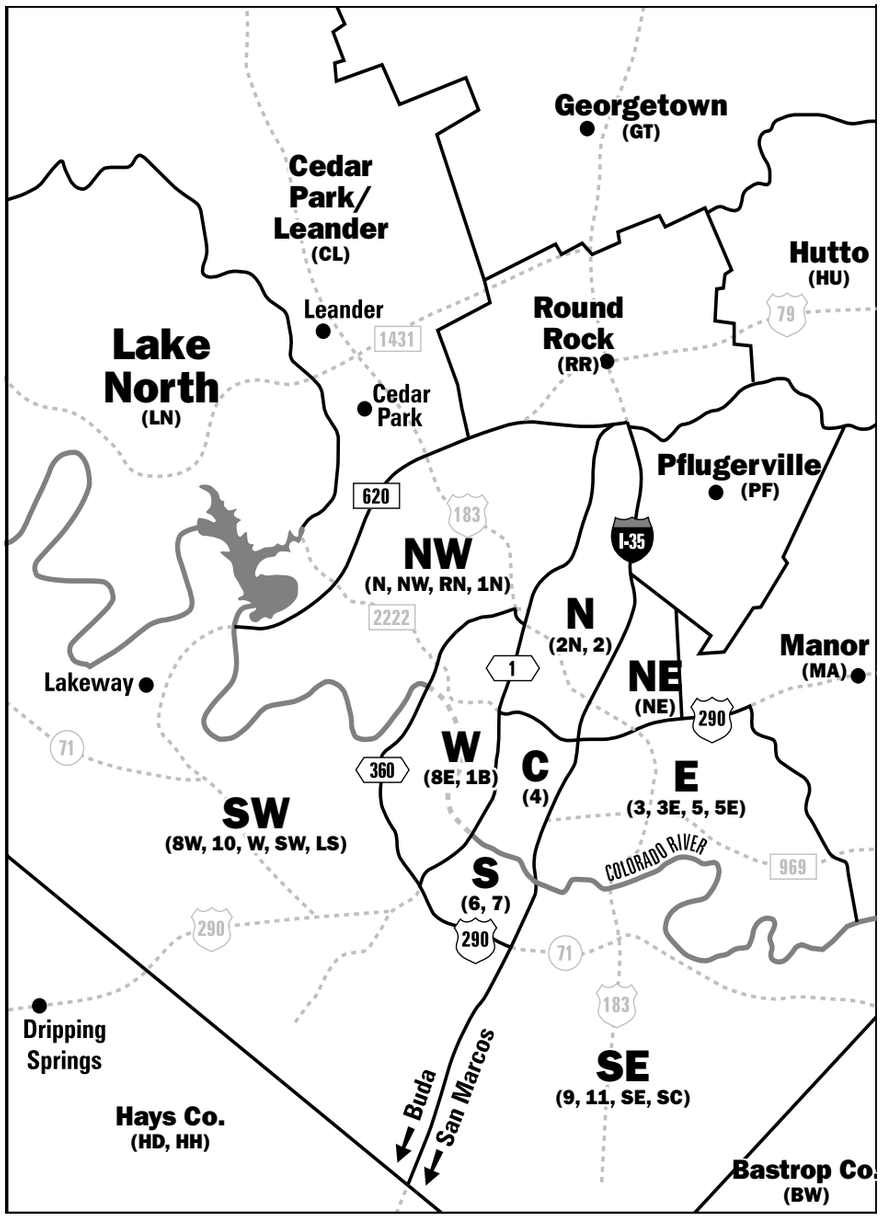
CENTRAL near Central Market, spacious, 1bd $595, 2bd $700, avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

CENTRAL near Oltorf cheap deposit, No app fee special,

water paid, Fitness, WD Conn, Large 1 BR $530 Apt Experts 416-8100 Broker.

CENTRAL Studio On Town Lake $480.1-1 $640 2 bedroom $700, $99 1st month rent.Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

CENTRAL MOPAC & 45th, central courtyards, pool, 1 br $595, 2 br $725, 2 br TH $825. A+, 231-1400 Agent



CENTRAL lowest prices $435 + and Specials. Apt

Experts 416-8100 Broker.

CENTRAL 1/1, 750 sqft. cement & ceramic tile flrs, beautiful landscaping, patios & small yards, built in bookshelves, great shopping & easy access to Mopac/183. Near Justin Ln. $120 dep. $550-$600/mo. 6710 Burnet.

Tonia 467-9589 no app fee.

CENTRAL 693-7231 http://austincool.com Downtown elegance, city-views, hardwoods. Rooftop deck, W/D.

CENTRAL/SOUTH near Riverside. $435, $100 deposit, free cable, UT/Metro bus service. Aparment Experts 416-8100 Broker.

NORTH Gas paid, fitness ctr, w/d con, 1-1 $465, 2-2 $630 (889 sqft),avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

NORTH 1/1, 601SF, $465

JOHN, REALTOR, 659-5339

NORTH Shoal Creek - Research 2-2 Free Cable only $610, small community. Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTH Super Deal Wells Branch 1-1 from $455, 2-2 from $675 Save $ Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTH RIVERWALK STYLE POOL, Gazebo like gym, tiled countertops, fireplaces,

gated. Flats, lofts &

townhomes. 1 br $520, 2 br $745. A+, 231-1400, Broker

NORTH Old English Charm 1-1 $485 2 bedroom from $580.Pool, fitness center, gas cooking, heating, hot water paid.Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTH STUDIO, 440SF, $480. Can work with ISSUES

JOHN, REALTOR, 659-5339

NORTH Huge 2 Story Townhouse.1204 sgft. Only $685 great roommate plan, screened in patio.Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTH $199 DEP/APP/1st MONTHS RENT! Agent 512.241.1111 lease@aptsaus.com.

NORTH 2/2 851SF, $625

CAN WORK WITH ISSUES

JOHN, REALTOR, 659-5339

NW Pool/spa, playground, picnic areas, 1 bd $519, 2 bd $699,

N Newly remodeled, gas paid, up to $150 off, 1 bd $460, 2 bd $685

C Concrete floors, 1 bd $525

S 1 bd $569, 2 bd $739, 5 bd $1369, concrete floors

SW 1 MONTH FREE, 1 bd $580, 2 bd $640, 3 bd $944, pool, Mopac access



CHRIS BEE

293-7737

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CAMPUS: Efficiency $400, 1-1 $500, 2-2 $639, 1010 sf, UT Bus Route

NORTH: Studio $389, 2B $699. Townhome 2-2 $625 month W/D connections. Fireplace. Vaulted Ceiling. 1-1 $435 W/D Connection, 1B $410, UT Bus Route, 2B $575 1 month free

NORTHWEST: 1-1 $509 Huge 2-2, 1314 sf, $729. 3BD $900.

SOUTH: Studio $415, 2 Bedroom Townhome $625, "Large Patio" 1-1 $459. Great Location. Greenbelt: 2B $610



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I refund your App Fee!

FEATURED PROPERTIES THIS WEEK!

SEXY 6TH ST. LOFTS WOOD FLOORS $595 1 BED. 2 BED $795. 5TH ST. LOFTS CHECK OUT RENTDRIS.COM

NORTH OR SOUTH ALL $99 MOVE IN DEALS IN AUSTIN. 1 BED $499, 2 BED $625, 3BED $700

TRAVIS HEIGHTS T-HOME OR APT. 1 & 2 BED $199 TOTAL MOVE IN TODAY! $540 & UP

ALL BILLS PAID SOUTH (NO ELEC) YES CABLE! 1 BED $500 & UP, 2 BED $630 TO $800, 3 BED $800 & UP

HOUSES & DUPLEXES NORTH OR SOUTH 2 OR 3 BED, SPLIT LEVEL OR FLAT WITH YARDS AND GARAGE $650 TO $1000. SEC. 8 OK! BIG DOG WELCOME! 1 BED HOUSE $600-SHOAL CLIFF AREA. NEW DUPLEX $850 CENTRAL

ASK ABOUT NEW HOME SALES. I OFFER 2% REBATE AT CLOSING TO YOU!

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512-487-5094

EMAIL: DRIS@RENTDRIS.COM

RonJon the Apt Mon



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Eff - $439 0 dep 0 app 78704, it's gold! Free cable

1br - $449 private lake and tanning bed

2br - $535 free cable

3br - $799 w/d conns. 2 pools

4br - $850 are you kidding me?

2br - $99 total move in $670 wood floors

Specializing in difficult situations, immediate move-ins, luxury, downtown, and cheap rent. You name it, I will find it with no problem mon!! Available weekends too ... so call now, mon.

512/293-7443

ronjontheapartmentmon@hotmail.com.

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CONTINUED 215

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NORTH SQUEEZE YOUR DOLLARS for this 1200+ square foot townhome with screened in porch. 2 bedroom, 2.5 baths!! Huge walk in closets, corner fireplace, W/D connections, lots of trees, pool.

A+, 231-1400, Agent

NORTH ** DREAM BIG! Studio $399, 1/1 $575, 2 BR TH $759. Agent 512.241.1111 lease@aptsaus.com

NORTH BIG & CHEAP, priced right. Large flooplans, huge living rooms,

gas cooking. 10 minutes to downtown. 1 br $485, 2 br $580. A+, 231-1400, Broker

NORTH Wells Branch Bargain! 1-1 $460 +$200 off 1st mth, 2-2 $685 w/d conn. www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTH 1/1, 500SF, $480

JOHN, REALTOR 659-5339

NORTH $100 off Wooded property, gas paid, 1bd $480, 2bd $655. 236-0002.

avignonrealty.com

NORTH $125 MOVE IN!W/D INCL.$499, 2br $725, Agent 512.241.1111 email lease@aptsaus.com

NORTH CABLE INCLUDED!! Small courtyard community!! Awesome location near Mopac. Big closets!!

2 br $610, 1 br $525.

A+, 231-1400 Agent

NORTH 1/1 700SF, $525

CAN WORK WITH ISSUES

JOHN, REALTOR, 659-5339

NORTH 1 mo. free, low deposit/app fees, w/d incld, pool, Eff $525, 1bd $555, 2bd $750. Chris 236-1116,

NORTH ACC Northridge Best Deal. 1-1 $470 2-2 from $690. Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent.

NORTH TOWN HOME 2/1.5 949sqft for $725, W/D CONNCALL JOHN, 659-5339, AGENT

NORTH California livin'! Jr 1-1 $380! Won't last! www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTH 2/2, 968SF, $765, W/D CONN. HUGE LIVING ROOM, BIG KITCHEN. CALL

JOHN, REALTOR,659-5339

NORTH 1/1, 672SF, $535 W/D CON. JOHN, REALTOR, 659-5339

NORTH 6-12 wks Free, newly remodeled, gas paid, 1bd $465, 2bd $685. Chris 236-1116, avignonrealty.com.

NORTH Bad Credit Okay 1-1 $455, 2BR $600, 3BR $700 Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent.

NORTH 1 MONTH FREE! Washer/Dryer included! $520+ call today! 512.241.1111 or email lease@aptsaus.com

NORTH Cheap, Cheap, Cheap!!! $380! www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTH 1/1, 685SF,$620,

W/D CONN. LOTS OF AMENITIES. CALL JOHN, REALTOR, 657-5339

NORTH CENTRAL Near Highland mall, w/d con, 1bd $475, 2bd $665, TH $685. 236-1116, avignonrealty.com

NORTH 2/2, 800SF, $695

CAN WORK WITH ISSUES

JOHN, REALTOR, 659-5339

NORTH Hug A Tree. Property loaded with trees, private park, efficiency $425, $435 pergo floors. Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent.

NORTH **GI-NORMOUS! 2 br/2 story TH! Agent 512.241.1111 email $665

NORTH Free Cable and Gas! $99 deposit. Gigantic 1-1 $595, 2 bedroom $750 www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTH 2/2.5 TOWN HOME $690, water paid some issues ok. John, 659-5339

yorkapartmentlocators.com

NORTH CENTRAL 1 Mo. Free, w/d con, sunrooms, 1-1 $517, 2-2 $714, TH $738. avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

NORTH Lofts & Townhouses - 1-1 $615 loft, 2-2.5 TH, huge windows $740, pool, courtyard Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTH AUSTIN:

- Studio. $389. Townhome 2-2 $625 month W/D conns. Fireplace. Vaulted Ceiling.
- 1-1 $435 W/D Connection.
- 1-1 $410 UT Bus route
- 2 BD $575 1 month free

NORTHWEST

- 1-1 $509
- Huge 2-2, 1314 S.F $729
- 1-1 $520 UT Bus Route

Bad Credit? Broken Leases? Felonies? Big Dogs? OK!

"PRE-LEASE TODAY"Call Ray Day at Flat Finders(512) 496-3725

NORTH studio, 350sf, $380

JOHN, REALTOR 659-5339

NORTH PERFECT ROOMMATE floorplan. 2 matched bedrooms with living room and kitchen between. Basketball/racquetball/tennis courts, 2 pools and more. $980. 1 br $705. A+ 231-1400, Agent

NORTH Awesome Value 1-1 676 sqft. with washer/dryer connections Only $475 1036 sqft. 2-2 from $665. Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTHEAST Up to $200 off, w/d, patios, 1bd $540, 2bd $650, avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

NORTHEAST Faux

HARDWOODS look real!!! Two pools, tennis, gym,

clubroom, extra storage. From $425. Eff, 1 & 2 bdrms. A+, 231-1400, Agent

NORTHWEST Remodeled and Nice.1st month free! New carpet, wood, new cabinets, starts 1-1 $512, 2-2 $740 Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTHWEST EASY CREDIT, low up front costs. Quick move in!!! Spacious 1 bdrm $ 509, 2 bdrm $679.

A+, 231-1400, Agent

NORTHWEST Arboretum 1 Month Free.1-1 from $515 Large 2-2 $700 Washer/ Dryer connections, fitness center, pool, and tennis Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTHWEST Arboretum Townhouse 2-2 $759 large,tall ceilings, great for roommate.Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTHWEST $99 Move in! Plus Free Plasma TV! Beautiful Arbor area. Won't last long! www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTHWEST $300 off look & lease special, Arboretum, 1bd $525, 2bd $715, Chris 236-1116, avignonrealty.com.

NORTHWEST Discounted move-in fees, Eff $552, 1bd $615, 2bd $832, 3bd $948, Chris 236-1116

NORTHWEST $639 Lake Austin Condo! 2-1 $835 W/D conn. and covered parking included. www.apartmentlocating.com

NORTHWEST Pool/spa, playground, picnic areas, 1bd $519, 2bd $729. avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

NORTHWEST Lost In Space Huge Townhomes 1350 sqft. 2-2.5 $760, 1600 sqft. 3-3 $825 Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTHWEST Lake Creek Townhomes 1-1.5 $549, 2-1.5 $659. 3-2.5 $799 Lots of Parks, hike and bike trail, pool. Apartment Experts 339-4411 agent.

NORTHWEST Northwest Area 4-Plex. Large fenced area and garage! 2-1.5 $675 www.apartmentlocating.com 692-4525

NORTHWEST Arboretum, daily rent specials, 1bd $489, 2 bd $680 236-0002. Avignonrealty.com

NORTHWEST Breed Alert! Any breed welcome! 1-1 $565, 2 bedroom $648. W/D connections and Workout facility. www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTHWEST $0 deposit, 2 wks free, fitness ctr, w/d con, 1bd $515, 2bd $700 236-0002.

NORTHWEST ANY BREED FRIENDLY BIG DOG!!! With pet interview!!! Condo

quality, patios, trees, pool.

1 br $575, 2 br $675.

A+, 231-1400 Agent

NORTHWEST Large, Quiet 2/1 Condo with great view. Concrete countertops, track lighting, ceramic tile & new carpet, built in book shelves, fireplace, ceiling fans, w/d conn. and more. $950. 4711 Spicewood Spgs. Rd.

NORTHWEST TOWNHOMES, W/D included. Free covered parking, pool, fitness, business center, room to roam!! 1 br $562, 2 br $662, 3 br $839.

A+, 231-1400, Broker

NORTHWEST Oversized TH's and Flats! $440, 2/2 $699, 3-3 $759 www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTHWEST GARAGES INCLUDED! Near the 360 Bridge!! Condo quality, gated, small community tucked into the hillside.

Workout room, pool. 1 br $775, 2 br $1025.

A+, 231-1400 Broker

NORTHWEST Give your Big Dog a great new home! 1/1 $565, 2 bedroom $648! www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTHWEST ** FREE MAY. $620, 1,2,3s available 512.241.1111 Agent lease@aptsaus.com

NORTHWEST No Deposit on Northwest Luxury!! Huge 1-1 $575, 2-2 $775. Amenities galore! www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTHWEST Pool/Spa, Playground, picnic areas, 1 bdrm $489, 2 bdrm $669, 3 bdrm $1200 Call Chris Bee, agent 512-293-7737 or visit www.apartmentsfirst.com

NORTHWEST LOW PRICES, spacious floorplans. Small, well kept community between Arboretum and Lakeline!! W/D connections, large closets, microwave, icemaker. 1 br $549, 2 br $639. A+, 231-1400 Agent



PROPERTIES OF THE WEEK!

CENTRAL

- 78704 studio, w/d included, private porch, $498!
- 1950s hardwood floors, Bouldin Creek neighborhood. 1 bedroom $650, 2 bedroom $825
- Historic Travis Heights: courtyard community, 2 bedroom, $750, 4 bedroom $925, most bills paid, huge private deck!
- On Zilker Park Greenbelt, hidden pet-friendly community, 1 bedroom $709, 2 bdrm $810, 50 ft. to trail!
- Heavily wooded hilltop 1 bedroom, huge 16 ft. private porch, oversized garden tub, $520, utilities paid!
- On SoCo restaurant, shopping district, townhouse, spiral staircase and concrete floors $725, walk to everything! No need for a car!
- 4th and Colorado, warehouse district flats, walk to nightlife! Starting at $1400.

SOUTH CENTRAL

- Raw modern warehouse-style apartments. Concrete floors, musician/artist friendly. 1 bedroom $569, 2 bedroom $739, 5 bedroom $1369.
- Zilker Park on Hike & Bike Trail. 1 bedroom, $709. 2 bedroom, $790 (large deck). Mountain bike and swim!
- On Town Lake Hike and Bike Trail, 1 bedroom $530, 2 bedroom $665. Ceramic tile and free cable!
- On Congress, hidden community, 1 bedroom $540, 2 bedroom flat $699, walk to everything!

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CENTRAL	SOUTH CENTRAL	CENTRAL
Totally remodeled, hardwood floors, 2/2 house, gourmet kitchen, deck, W/D, tile. $1495	Large 2/2 1/2 4-plex 2 masters, tile, utility room, $675	UT West Campus, 2/2. Croix, reserved parking, W/D, $1500. 2/1 1/2 Pecan Square, W/D, $1125

512.443.2526

EANES PROPERTIES

Central

• 5514 Joe Sayers Ave. - 3 Bedroom, 1.5 Bath home. Large backyard. Updated. $1425 mth.

North

• 8115-A Ceberry. Duplex in great location off of Mopac and Spicewood Springs. 3 Bedroom, 1.5 Bath. Large fenced yard. 1-car garage. $1000 mth.

Southwest

• 3506 Purple Heron - 1-story house. Remodel in process with wood and tile flooring, paint, stainless appliances, and granite. $2395 mth. 4 bedroom, 2 bath. Eanes schools.

•1105 Hindon Ct. - 3 Bedroom, 2.5 Bath, 2-story home. New wood laminate flooring. Huge back yard. Cul-de-sac lot. Off of Slaughter Ln. $1450 mth.

Kyle

•219 Winter St. 2005 built house in Four Seasons, 1 story, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, fenced yard $1195 mth. Ready mid July.

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EANES – 3/2 off Bee Caves & Walsh Tarlton. Formal lvg. family room with fireplace. Available Now. $1650

NORTH/CENTRAL – 2/2.5 duplex off Northland & Shoal Creek. Fireplace. All Appliances. Available Now. $1100.

ROUND ROCK – 2/1 duplex, 1-car garage, all appliances, W/D connections, fenced yard, $725. Available Now.

Call about these and other great locations

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OLTORF - Gated seclusion. $100 deposit, w/d conns, from $490

78704 Studio $440, 1/1 $550, 2/1.5 Townhouse $725

Walk DOWNTOWN - 1/1 $650, 2/2 $825, 3/2 $910

Just north of HYDE PARK - 2/2 $775, w/d incl., $99 move-in

6TH ST/CLARKSVILLE Wood floors $625

2 min. to DOWNTOWN Gated Community 1/1 $570, 2/2 $720

Vintage TRAVIS HEIGHTS Neighborhood. Cable paid. 1/1 $450, 2 bdrm. townhome $750

LONESTAR REALTY GROUP
326-5757

ROUND ROCK Round Rock Duplex, nice duplex community. Close to Dell only $840. Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

ROUND ROCK 1st Month Free! 2-2 $635, small community. Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

SOUTH CENTRAL

HISTORIC TRAVIS HEIGHTS

Hidden Courtyard community in the heart of South Central Austin. Most utilities paid.

2BDRM $590

HUGE 2BDRM/2BA $750

LARGE 4BDRM/2BA $925

Units Rarely Available!

TEAM LEASING

(512) 416-8333

http://www.austindowntownliving.com

TEAM LEASING

SOUTH Free Wireless Internet! Eff., 1 BR $515, 1/2 month FREE rent, 1 yr. lease, Metro bus. Apt. Experts 416-8100 Broker.

SOUTH 1-1 771 sf. $572, Pool, Water Pd, Gated, Easy access to Hwy, 657-2314 yorkapartmenlocators.com

SOUTH

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See narrated video tours and thousands of pictures & floor plans to hundreds of properties at:

http://www.Austinapartmentstore.com

- Anywhere in Austin area.
- Any price range.
- Best specials.
- Fast friendly service.
- We can email pictures & floor plans to the hottest specials in town.

Give us a call at 828-4470.

SOUTH http://austincool.com 693-7231 Huge Town Lake 2/2, large bdrms/closets, easy dwntwn access, cable, $665.

SOUTH Why pay rent? When you may be able to own a home instead? You can own a home - 3 bedroom, 2 baths, and 2 car garage worth $150,000 and pay about the same as a 2 bedroom apartment! Get more for your money act now while interest rates are still low! Call Eddie Reynolds today: 512-921-9100

SOUTH http://austincool.com 693-7231 Wooded parklike earthy setting, large decks, big dogs ok! 2/1, $685.

SOUTH 1-1, $585, close to shopping, Hwy, Greenbelt and downtown. 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTH CENTRAL Travis Heights, FREE cable, 2bd $925. avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

SOUTH 2-1's, $650, 2-2s $725, $199 covers dep, app, & admin fee. 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTH http://austincool.com 693-7231 Laid-back artisan hangout, big dogs okay! 2BD Campbell's Hole, W/D, $725. Cool studio also avail, $470!

SOUTH http://austincool.com 693-7231 Total urban living experience. Stained concrete flrs, art deco, W/D, 2/1 $739.

SOUTH $129 total move-in, pool, fitness ctr, 1bd $515, 2bd $689, avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

SOUTH 1-1, 653 sf $544, 2-2 985 sf $652, UT shuttle, pool, big dogs OK, 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTH 1 BR $459, $99 Deposit, pool, tennis, UT Shuttle/Metro Bus. Apt. Experts 416-8100 Broker.

SOUTH Art deco, concrete floors, Jacuzzi bathtubs, 1bd $569, 2bd $689, Chris 236-1116 avignonrealty.com

SOUTH 2-1 $664, 2-2 $700, Free WDs, Pool, easy access to Hwy. Richard 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTH

TOWN LAKE HIKE & BIKE TRAIL

Completely remodeled with ceramic tile upgrades, modern appliances and free cable! Huge 1BDRM... $530! Large 2BDRM/2BA... $665!

TEAM LEASING

(512) 416-8333

http://www.austindowntownliving.com

TEAM LEASING

SOUTH CENTRAL BIG DOG friendly apartments right behind Zilker Park and Barton Creek Hike and Bike Trails. HUGE private deck. 1 bedroom $669. 2 bedroom $760, http://www.austindowntownliving.com Call Team Leasing (512) 416-8333.

SOUTH Near SE shuttle, resort style pool + amenities. W/D, free cable + HBO. $325+, Apartment Experts 416-8100 Broker.

SOUTH $100 off special! Water/gas/cable paid, 1bd $535, 2bd $645, avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

SOUTH CENTRAL Off Riverside, 2004 Kirksey. 2/2 1/2 4-plex with two master bedrooms, one upstairs and one downstairs. Utility room, ceramic tile, $675. Call MRG (512) 443-2526.

SOUTH 1-1 $480, 2-2 $615, UT Shuttle, water paid, Free Wireless Internet 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTH CENTRAL $250 rent special, Lakefront, downtown, 1-1 $645, 2-2 $725. Chris 236-1116, avignonrealty.com.

SOUTH

Sexy 6th Street Lofts

$595 Wood floors

Call 785-DRIS

www.RentDris.com

AUSTIN APARTMENT CONNECTIONS

SOUTH

!!! $499 !!!

TOTAL MOVE IN

Faux wood floors,
New carpet and paint
Spacious layouts
Tree filled Courtyard
FREE CABLE

•543 sq. ft. 1BR $545
•660 sq. ft. 1BR $595
•880 sq. ft. 2BR $645

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SOUTHEAST Beautiful 2-2s, $679 Modern Kitchens & Large BTHs, Pool, 657-2314, yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHEAST Large 1-1, $539, WD, Concrete FLS, Pool, UT shuttle. 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHEAST Large 1-1's, 725 sf. $539. Water, Gas, Trash Paid. Pool, 657-2314, yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHEAST Large 2-2.5, $800, Townhome, WD, fenced yard, 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHEAST 1-1, $480, 2-1, $599, 2-2, $630, 1st mth rent: $99! Most bills Pd. 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHEAST Large 1-1, $530, WD conns. Water Paid. Pool, UT Shuttle, 657-2314, yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHEAST 1/1, 656sf, $585, w/d conn. Aug. 10th, JOHN, REALTOR 659-5339

SOUTHEAST $425- Huge 1B in 4 BD 2006 custom built house (2900 sq ft) available August, off I 3-5 (15 mins from UT/Texas State)! 6 months lease min; 2.5 baths; 2 stories; seperate game room, dinning, study, living room, breakfast, washer/dryer, kitchen area; 2 car garage; back yard; free pool access; wireless/cable/central air; basketball court; contact: becky_ta@yahoo.com or call me at 415.260.3697

SOUTHEAST Large 2-2, $699, WD Conns, UT shuttle, Big kitchen. 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHWEST Peaceful, woodsy, 2-1 townhome, POOL, 2 decks, washer dryer, all appliances, no smokers or pets.$850 p/mo. 512-288-2379 or 830-377-0183

SOUTHWEST 1 month FREE, 1 bdrm $580, 2 bdrm $630, 3 bdrm $944, pool, Mopac access Call Chris Bee, agent 512-293-7737 or visit www.apartmentsfirst.com

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220 DUPLEX/HOUSES

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CENTRAL 4511 Ave H. 2/1 in Hyde Park. Hardwood floors, large trees. Dishwasher, washer dryer included. Central air/heat. Pets ok with pet deposit. No smokers please. Contact Carol 331-9208 or 517-2980

CENTRAL EANES 3-2 off Bee Caves & Walsh Tarlton. Formal lvg. Family room w/fireplace. Available Now, $1650. The Taylor Company at 512-481-8600 ext. 217

CENTRAL TARRYTOWN - 2 Bedroom office, 1.5 Bath House, $1,895. Remodeled Kitchen w/ Breakfast Nook, Wood Floors, W/D Con. 2 Car Garage. Lots of windows. Fenced back yard. 2101 Indian Trail. 451-0414

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CENTRAL

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NORTH

8115-A Ceberry Duplex in great location off of Mopac and Spicewood Springs. 3 Bedroom, 1.5 bath. Large fenced yard. 1 car garage. $1000 month.

SOUTHWEST

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• 1105 Hindon Ct.- 3 BD, 2.5 BTHs, 2 story home. Huge backyard, cul-de-sac. off of Slaughter. $1450/mth

Look under Property for Lease at http://www.EanesProperties.com for photos

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CENTRAL 607 West 29 1/2 St. - 1/1 house, fenced yard, pets allowed, Ideal for student living, avail 8/1/06. 408-521-5900

CENTRAL Off Enfield very retro - unique 2/1 4-plex built around private courtyards, Satilla tile throughout, fireplace, CA/CH, gas/water paid, quiet neighbors, pet friendly! NO W/D connections. $950. 1603 Woodlawn. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, matthewsproperties@yahoo.com

CENTRAL 4712 Depew efficiencies from $450 all utilities paid except electric, laundry on site available now. 1914 B Cullen Large 1-1 ceramic tile throughout, laundry on site. All bills paid $775, avail. now. 658-9493 www.cbimanagement.com

CENTRAL 5505 Link, Quaint 1950 2/1 house, attached garage, great style, hrwds, laundry room, near N Austin I35/Lamar/290, $1395 474-1470 Brad@beckandco.com Beck & Co.

CENTRAL Hyde Park - 1037 East 43rd Spacious 3/1 House w/ hardwoods, CACH, Fenced yard, pets okay $1295. Lizanne, Agent, 608-2428

CENTRAL Burmaster/Anderson Mill, 3/2, Dplx. $795/mo. $700dep. Scowden Properties, Realtor. 255-6181

CENTRAL 5204 Marymount, 4/2 w/nice shady yard; near Manor/51st; recent remodel (paint, carpet, cabinets, counters, etc) $1195/mo. HomeSource 472-HOME. www.austinhomesource.com

CENTRAL Westlake 1/1, new everything, maple cabinets, tile, W/D conn. shady yard, $750+ E. For quiet person 850 C Forest View. 694-7617

CENTRAL

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• 2409 Bryan
3-2 $1200

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CENTRAL 400 E. 33rd Street. 2/1, North of UT Campus, Washer/Dryer, Coeverd PPatio, Fenced Yard, Pets Welcome. Avail 8/15/06. 408-521-5900

CENTRAL Nice updated 3/2, near woods, Saltillo, fenced yard, $995. 4703 Creekwood near E 51st Owr/Agt933-1311

CENTRAL Vintage Houses and Apartments in Central Austin for rent. See them at www.barkleyhouses.com.

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CENTRAL West Campus Duplex, 3-1 $1600, 4-2 $2400, wood floors, spacious, avig-nonrealty.com, 236-0002.

CENTRAL 400 E. 33rd Street, 2/1, North of UT Campus, Washer/Dryer, Covered Patio, Fenced Yard, Pets Welcome.408-521-5900

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NORTH 3602 B SUMMIT BEND, 2/2, $895,quiet neighborhood, near Spicewood Springs, 474-1470 Brad@beckandco.com Beck & Co.

NORTH 504 Jan Court, 4/2, large living area, covered PORCH in back, WD connect, $1050 474-1470 Brad@beckandco.com Beck & Co.

NORTH Lakeway Living 424 Sailmaster Spacious 3/2 duplex. Huge fenced yard, garage. Available now! $850 Agent / Lizzane 608-2428

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SOUTH CENTRAL 909 Holly, Totally remodeled 2/2 house, gourmet kitchen with stainless appliances, washer/dryer, deck, tile and hardwood floors, $1,495. Call MRG (512) 443-2526.

SOUTH 11104 Midbury,

$400 Bonus Move-In for Aug. $1345/mo. $1200 dep. 2479 sqft. 3 bdr, 2 lvg, 2.5 bath,

2 car garage, privacy fence, $35 app. fee, Call Terry Parr, Realtor 789-8064

SOUTH CENTRAL 1906 B WOODLAND, 2/1.5, $925, 2 story, easy commute to UT or dwntwn, WD conn, deck off master bdrm, 2 living rooms, FP in back, 474-1470 Brad@beckandco.com Beck & Co.

SOUTH 2/1 cottage on Montclaire off S.Lamar. $1300 Hardwoods,ceramic,granite countertops. W/D 506-1032

SOUTH 2/1 cottage on Montclaire off S.Lamar. $1300 Hardwoods,ceramic,granite countertops. W/D 506-1032

SOUTH 113 Meteor Side A 3BR 1.5 Bath Near S. Congress & William Cannon $895.00 per month New paint, carpet, & tile. 512-786-2032

SOUTH 5113 Ponciana, 3/2 house, 1 car garage, $995. 474-1470 Brad@beckandco.com Beck & Co.

SOUTH 9500 Bear Paw unit B, Near Airport, 2/1 duplex with 1 car garage, vaulted ceilings, FP in living room, small back yard, $705 474-1470 Brad@beckandco.com Beck & Co.

230 COMMERCIAL

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CENTRAL Near Lamar/Koenig. No smoke/drug/pets. Responsible/ personable/happy age 23-34. $450+util+d tommy1010@gmail.com

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CENTRAL WESTLAKE, bus route, free room+bills in exchange for help taking care of 2 kids (11 and 9 yrs)after school, 20 hrs/week, 347-1671.

CENTRAL You have a room for rent? Advertise for free on www.easyroommate.com

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EAST HouseShare Avail Now. Central,12x15 bedroom,creek, 3000sqft, 1/2 acre fenced, priv bath, bamboo floors $600 fletchercassie@yahoo.com

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NORTH Rommate to share a fully furnished 2-1 cottage / house in north Austin. $450 a month plus half utilities. NON SMOKER!! No pets. mbelisle@mail.utexas.edu

NORTH You are looking For a room? 1000s of rooms & roommates. From $200/Mo www.easyroommate.com

NORTH Female wanted to share 2 bed duplex. Good area, close to stores, Mopac/Parmer. Washer/ dryer, large fenced yard. 497-6870

NORTHWEST 23 year old female student looking for a male/female to share large 2/2 apt. Call me today at 602-957-6401.

ROUND ROCK 1-room, pool, hot tub.Cool part time dad Call J at 512-751-6444

SOUTH You are looking For a room? 1000s of rooms & roommates. From $200/Mo www.easyroommate.com

SOUTHEAST Looking for a laid back, but responsible college aged roommate, to share new house. 3 common areas, wireless,cable,washer/dryer,covered patio,pool table,and hot tub. Must be able to pay rent on time and sign lease. benjmund@mail.utexas.edu

240 REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

BASTROP Search 8K+ homes on-line! New homes, up to $30K in free upgrades. Forecolosures =Great deals. Resale homes, use grants for $0 down! 785-9157, agt. http://www.MrDreamHome.com

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CEDAR PARK 2502 Greer Dr 3/4/2 A Great hm that has so many upgrades that it could be a model! Wired for surround sound, granite counters & master w/ jetted tub!

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CENTRAL 1408 Juliet Street., Area 7, 2 bed, 1 bath main house with 550 sq.ft. office/studio or 3rd bedroom. Contemporary kitchen, sun room, big bedrooms. A real 2 car garage! Big covered front porch. Walk to Townelake. Downtown bus just 2 blocks away. Contact Scott at 577-9232.

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Visit:

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CENTRAL Walk down the hill to Barton Springs Pool!

Spacious 1200SF+ 2/2 at Springhollow $218,700. Very large living, master, & master closet. Wood floors. Poolside. Perfect move-in condition. Perfect location.

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CENTRAL 902 E. 54th St. Great investment in Area 4! Beautiful lot w/ lovely trees. Convenient to Hyde Park, Highland Mall, Seton, UT & Downtown. Wood floors under carpet. $164,500 MLS# 8180911 Barbara Gremillion 512-775-2904 Coldwell Banker United Realtors

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WEST UNIVERSITY AREA NEAR JUDGE'S HILL!!

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Precious 3/2 home with rare wrap-around porch & backyard studio (could be converted to apt). Refinished wood floors. Close to UT, downtown, Whole Foods, Central Mkt., hospital! Only $499,900! See at www.mywestaustin.com

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512-797-0626

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CENTRAL 2108 Westover

Tarrytown OPEN HOUSE Sun.1/4 pm 3/2/1. A beautiful white rock home in a great neiborhood. Upgrades Galore including Hottub! Huge backyard with huge trees. A Close to shopping, easy access to Mopac and the downtown.

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fredmeyersaustinhomes.com

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307 LE GRANDE

Custom contemporary home shaded by giant oaks.

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Spacious rooms flooded with natural light. Minutes from downtown and the capitol in Travis Heights area. $820,000. Call Claudette or Harry, Realtors 447-1514.

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EAST OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY Aug 6th 12-3pm. Very charming East Austin home close to downtown and the Town Lake Hike and Bike Trail! Completely remodeled with custom built in cabinets, concrete kitchen counters with copper backsplash and recent appliances. Large master has a sitting area, vaulted ceiling and walk-in closet. Contemporary Master bath with a jetted tub, custom separate shower and sink illuminated with modern lighting. The property has a deep front yard and a quiet back yard for entertaining. This is a home not to be passed up on!! Mike Melrose

Bettersworth Realty

Cell (512) 797-8774

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KYLE 116 Pecanwood really nice single story with tons of character. 3 beds / 2 bath Price $ 149,750 MLS # 5044883. Call Fred Meyers 517.2300 or visit fredmeyersaustinhomes.com

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LOCKHART 313 Plum St. Lockhart, Tx 2/1 + Efficiency Apt. Fred Helmerichs/Ultima Real Estate 512-560-2388 Direct 512-343-6322 Office

MANOR 13708 Field Spar

the only change on this one is where it says this & 3 other homes left... we want this and 1 other Streetman home left and the price is 193,550. Fred Meyers 517.2300 or visit fredmeyersaustinhomes.com

MANOR 11617 Prince Phillip

ok instead of saying 6 sold, only 5 left.. we want all sold, only 2 left and the price is 190,850. Call Fred Meyers 517.2300 or visit fredmeyersaustinhomes.com

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NORTH 2/2, 920 SF, WD INC. $685, 2WKS FREE ON 12MO. LEASE. CALL JOHN,

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NORTH 1/1, 601SF, $517

WD CON. 3RD FLOOR

JOHN, REALTOR 657-5339

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NORTHWEST Balcones Woods ! This 1806 sq. ft.3 bed 2 bath is located on a tree covered lot. It has a large open living area and formal dining room. Recent upgrades include new 30 year roof, recent exterior paint, new carpet and tile. There is a neighborhood association with pool, tennis, park and more. Schools are Davis,Murchison and Murcia. Asking $215,000. Contact Bettersworth Realty at 263-2570. See MLS 9698480 for more pics.

NORTHWEST KILLER Cat Mountain 2,146 Sq.Ft. 3BR/3BA home-only $325,000! Call (512)77-KEVIN Log on CatMountainRealtor.com

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SOUTH Extremely well kept and clean 743SF 1/1 in Chambord Condos only $63,700. Your chance to own affordable Austin real estate within 4 miles of downtown! Wood parquet floors, FP, vaulted ceilings, windows

3 sides. Call Condo Joe

203-4100.

SOUTH Great deal on 900SF 2/1 in Chambord off E

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6810 Pennwood 3/2/2G, large corner lot, shade trees, Paint, carpet, appliances, HVAC, roof all new in June 2006. Only $169,500! Carrie, Broker 801-0436. Austin Real Pros, REALTORS 458-3530

SOUTH Homes still available for $0 Down (with available credit); Homes Starting at $105,000; Payments as low as $875 per month - Areas including Austin, Round Rock, Kyle, Cedar Park, Elgin and more. For more info

contact Kyle with Hillhouse Realty, Inc. 512.663.2925 or for more information visit www.787homes.com

SOUTHA 8151 Evadean

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BEDROOM SET KN 9 Pc Louis Phillip Bedroom

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SOFA Nice comfy, high back sofa with rolled arms. No rips or stains. Sort of light colored artsy southwest-ish design. $100.00 obo. digitalphotocafe@gmail.com

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GARAGE SALE July 29 - 8:00am-noon (please no earlier) - 4913 Finley Drive - clothing, stereo equipment, lots more, see web ad for full details.

GARAGE SALE Friday 28th from 8-12 -Bridal Path Cv, Cedar Pk furniture,tools,art, jeep parts,dog kennel,stepping stones etc..

GARAGE SALE Saturday, July 29--9am to 1pm 911 E 49th St (off Airport Blvd) You can find almost anything! No early birds, please.

GARAGE SALE August 5th. Crestview. DVD Players, furniture, clothes, knick knacks, and cool beverages...come early! 1008 Taulbee Lane, 78757

GARAGE SALE Saturday, 8/5/06 7:00am-? NE Austin 2010 Sunny Brook Dr. Pots&Pans, dishes, dog house, men's clothing, camping gear,

GARAGE SALE for Justice on Sat, August 19, 7:00 am to 2:00 pm at 1912 East 7th St, Austin. To donate items please call 441-8123 ext 113

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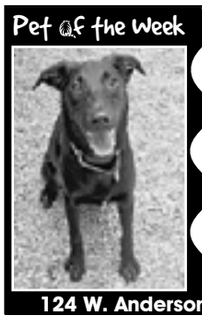
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Q. Are there any solid studies to show that the "new" Litozin rose hips can alleviate or even "cure" osteoarthritis?

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In the early Eighties, Erik Hansen in Denmark began to make and sell a dried rose hips powder using a special, now patented, process that yielded especially high amounts of a unique anti-inflammatory substance. This material, a fat-soluble "galactolipid," has been named Litozin in America and is now being marketed as a food ingredient. Dr. Kaj Winther, an inflammation specialist, has become interested in it and is doing clinical trials to confirm its effectiveness as a pain reliever.

In Europe, under the trade name Hyben Vital, Dr. Winther has used Litozin in two double-blind, placebo-controlled, randomized trials as a pain reliever for osteoarthritis patients. Results of the first study were published in the July 2004 issue of *Phytomedicine,* and his most recent study results are published in the August 2005 issue of the *Scandinavian Journal of Rheumatology*. In both studies, 2.5 grams per day of the standardized rose hips powder were given to about 100 osteoarthritis sufferers. In both studies, those receiving rose hips powder were able to reduce their use of what the researchers called their "rescue medicines," the conventional pain relievers that were backups to the study medicine.

Osteoarthritis is the "wear and tear" type of joint damage that affects millions of mostly elderly people worldwide. To differentiate it from rheumatoid arthritis, it is sometimes called "noninflammatory arthritis," suggesting that there is no inflammation or swelling, but recent research shows that this is not the case. It is still generally treated with anti-inflammatory drugs such as Vioxx, although concerns over the safety of such drugs have arisen recently. If safe and effective "natural" alternatives to conventional prescription anti-inflammatory drugs can be found, it is likely that a large number of people would prefer to use something like Litozin.

Litozin provides more than just vitamin C. Since it is derived from food, it also has a number of substances that are known to be beneficial in various ways, such as organic acids (citric acid, malic acid, etc.) and proanthocyanidins (potent antioxidants), as well as several bioflavonoids.

Since osteoarthritis is more a condition than a disease, "curing" it involves more than relieving the pain. The real goal is to restore the tough, elastic cartilage in our joints to its youthful condition, undamaged and allowing unrestricted movement. Although Litozin rose hips can apparently relieve pain and may also contribute to the healing process, it may be even more effective when combined with other healing nutrients.

James Heffley, Ph.D., is a certified clinical nutritionist. The information he provides is for educational use only. If you believe you have a medical problem, see your physician.

Car TALK

by Tom and Ray Magliozzi

READER NEEDS MINIVAN SUGGESTIONS

Dear Tom and Ray:

I am beginning to look for a new car, a minivan. I currently drive a 1999 Jeep Cherokee Sport, which I love, but I need something bigger (I do a lot of things with my Westies, and I need more space to be able to stack the dog crates in the back, plus have room for my stuff). I like having four-wheel drive, since I often travel in lousy weather or have to drive through muddy fields at various dog events. Should I get a van with all-wheel drive? Someone told me that all-wheel drive on a minivan really doesn't matter because the body of the car sits low on the wheelbase (unlike SUVs, which sit high), and a van with front-wheel drive is all I really need. What do you think? Also, do you have a recommendation for a minivan? I'm leaning toward a Toyota Sienna right now. Thanks guys! – Jody

RAY: Well, I'm glad you're looking at the Sienna, Jody, because that's the only all-wheel-drive minivan on the market these days.

TOM: It also happens to be a very nice one, so you can't go wrong with a Sienna.

RAY: But when you see the sticker price (the all-wheel-drive version starts around 33 grand), you might want to have a few other options on the table.

TOM: One option might be a front-wheel-drive minivan. In moderately bad weather, minivans do quite well, as your friend suggests. They're heavy and have the engine right over the front wheels, and they have enough ground clearance to get you through a modest amount of snow with no problem. So if bad weather is just an occasional problem for you, front-wheel drive might be enough. Especially if you invest in four good snow tires.

RAY: But if you *have to* drive frequently in unplowed snow, or – as you say – onto muddy fields, then you really do need all-wheel drive. And in that case, a good backup option might be something like a Ford Freestyle.

TOM: That's sort of the Barry Bonds of station wagons, with optional all-wheel drive. It seats six or, with the seats folded down, carries a boatload of cargo. It starts at about 5 grand less than an all-wheel-drive Sienna, and gets slightly better mileage. Put that on your list, too, Jody.

* * *

What is the most cost-effective way to buy a car? Tom and Ray hash it all out in their pamphlet "Should I Buy, Lease, or Steal My Next Car?" Send $4.75 (check or money order) to Next Car, PO Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

* * *

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk Web site at **www.cartalk.com**.

Tune in to *Car Talk* each Saturday at 9am on

kut 90.5 AUSTIN TEXAS

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CONTINUED 450 LICENSED MASSAGE

GENERAL

AMAZING TOUCH
TILL 1AM!
OFFICES IN AUSTIN/RR.
OUTCALLS AVAILABLE.
SHANNON MARIE
(RMT# 24536)
567-3115

GENERAL
The Body Mechanic
Massage Therapy-
CALL FOR APPTS
512.391.1569
Downtown - 819 W. 11th
Town Lake - 512 Riverside
Uptown - 6101 Balcones
North - 8840 Burnet Rd.
South - 300 S. Lamar
Round Rock - 2000 I-35
$40 for 50 min Intro Special. or $65 for 90 minutes
BodyMechanicMassage.com, (MT039068)

GENERAL Relieve Stress. Headache, back/neck pain, sore muscles, or just relax & enjoy. Magic Palms Therapeutic Massage. Out Calls $65/75 mins. Call
512-281-6274 RMT#45388

GENERAL SOOTHING MASSAGE. Experienced, professional. N. Austin/Jollyville Rd. M-Sat. 10am-7pm. Cash only. By appointment only.372-9530. RMT 042276.

GENERAL Get Pampered with a Swedish, Deep Tissue, Sports, Chair, or Hot Stone Massage by Rebecca. North Austin, 183 & Anderson Mill. $10 off any massage. Call
512-699-9165, MT#031330

GENERAL

MELT TENSION
THROUGH MASSAGE BY
TRACEY LEIGH
627-3333
OPEN EVERYDAY
M/V/AX RMT# 21699
http://www.melttension.com

GENERAL $40 hour! Incall. Best Deal in Town! Clark (RMT 07398) Call 784-0929. http://www.freewebs.com/clark2

GENERAL A journey beyond sensations... by Mary Ellen. The ultimate experience in relaxation! Full Body Massage, Herbal Baths, Warm Oils, Hot Tub Massage, MC/VISA (RMT#9644) 927-8366.

GENERAL * NEW CONVENIENT NORTH LOCATION! * The Executive Touch Massage. Specializing in Total Relaxation. By appt. only. Call Kim 989-0003, 833-6690 RMT023154

GENERAL Therapeutic Relief. In/Out calls, 9am-7pm daily. Eva, Call 282-4426. RMT#3830.

GENERAL Treat yourself to a relaxing hot oil, full-body Swedish massage in a candle-lit, private room/
shower, 24/7, in/out calls. Clint 775-9164 - RMT# 34842

GENERAL Comfortable, quiet, considerate, careful and thoughtful. 470-6525 (RMT013588).

GENERAL Carole's back, providing soothing Esalen Massage. Just a few min NE. (512) 281-4022 (RMT#3195)

GENERAL NOW OPEN. Relax - Relieve - Enjoy. Swedish Massage, Deep & Soft Tissue, Full Body Massage, hot stone treatment. Bee Cave Rd, quiet office. RMT#39907. Call 698-1615 or 905-7668

GENERAL All stressed up and no place to go? Tony's Wonderful Massage RMT#3233, 346-6210.

GENERAL Experienced massage therapist seeking mature clients. Anne, MT#39649 (512) 653-3438.

GENERAL FULL BODY
MASSAGE by James. Incalls/Outcalls 24/7. Call 554-2248. (RMT017905)

LOMI LOMI Catch the Wave! Hawaiian Bodywork... An extraordinary experience. New location, new hours (RMT44052) Call 220-6880.

READER NOTICE
The State of Texas Department of Health requires registration numbers for individuals who practice massage. These registration numbers are included in all ads within the therapy section. They are as follows: TR = Temporary Registration is a temporary licensed number which is good for six months as a registered massage therapist in Texas. RMT = Registered Massage Therapist or MT = Massage Therapist, which is the permanent registration number once all state tests have been passed. ME = Massage Establishment, which is a place of business that offers licensed massage therapy and has a licensed massage therapist on site of the business establishment. MI = Massage Instructor, an individual who is a registered massage therapist an approved by the State of Texas to offer instruction to 1 or more students of massage therapy. Any concerns should be directed to the Texas Department of Health in Austin at 512-834-6616

REFLEXOLOGY Soothing, Therapeutic Massage & Spa Treatment. Kind. J'Amy, LRMT#017236 636-6883.

RELAXATION Fabulous
massages. Full body
relaxation, body scrubs, hot stones, warm oil. Outcalls, 9am-12am. 569-7001. TR#45207.

RELAXATION FULL BODY MASSAGE by an experienced male masseur, call Michael Alan RMT021801 636-4200.

RELAXATION Massage by young college student. Call Greg for soothing massage. In/Out calls. RMT# TR19001. Cellular, 512-496-3527.

RELAXATION Strong hands for the stressed out body. Treat yourself to a FULL body swedish massage. In/out calls. Mark (512) 653-4247 RMT# 038941

RELAXATION
Private setting in S. Austin. Full body massage with warm oil by masculine guy with strong, sensitive hands.
Don, RMT #28735
585-9450
www.elmforestmassage.net

RELAXATION Full Body Massage for the discriminating man; soothing techniques to remedy your needs; wkdays, 6-9 PM, Wkends/Holidays, 10A-9P; Don, 436-9240, Zilker Pk. area. MT#032673

RELAXATION Gisela, Therapist trained in pampering. 797-3171. 183 & 290. Open Monday - Thursday 10am - 6pm. RMT#19847

SACRED LOMI Lomi Massage, Swedish, Deep Tissue, & Maternity. Great central location. RMT#048087 (512)297-5585

SWEDISH Gift yourself to a luxurious massage from a recent Fine Arts UT graduate. Thanks for all your encouragement and support! Kasey Smith, MT#17406. 457-8496.

SWEDISH Full hour of hands on Swedish massage. $20 off your 1st massage. 636-3661. RMT #40870.

SWEDISH Full-body massage by 1 or 2 male therapists. 927-9704 or 422-0514.
mt#023969 & mt#024072

SWEDISH Relaxing, soothing, and tailored to each client. Marilyn RMT030602 (512) 707-8018.

SWEDISH Professional Bodywork: sport-swedish-deep. Convenient dwtn.
location. In call/out call/hotel. Keith Goertz, RMT#036544. Call 512-431-9008

SWEDISH Massage Gstavo Marquez. By Appt: Flexible Schedule. Call 512-577-7555. MT032836

SWEDISH "Forget the rest... try the best." Incall/Outcall. Massage by Joy. (MT1151) Call (512) 280-2995.

SWEDISH RMT#31534
MASSAGES ARE LIKE A BOX OF CHOCOLATES, YA
NEVER KNOW....445-0280

SWEDISH DEEP TISSUE
N.Austin.Gay Friendly. Shower available.Bruce@healtosoul.com or 673-8072

SWEDISH MASSAGE by Will $35/hr. IN/OUT Evenings and Weekends: 351-2430 RMT#40677 College Dis.

THERAPEUTIC Feel better now... Therapeutic Massage by Ilse Ratchut, RMT#355386. 5 years of professional experience. Sports, Swedish, Shiatsu, deep tissue. Central Location.
264-4500.
http://mycare2.com/unacycle

455 PSYCHIC ASTROLOGY

HEALING
STUCK IN A RUT?
Intuitive healer researches Akashic records, past lives, karma. Soul clearing process releases limiting patterns, beliefs, energy distortions blocking change. Awaken purpose, abundance, joy! Deborah renown clairvoyant Phone appt. only 462-9993 http//www.streamsoflight.com

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PSYCHIC READINGS Tarot or channeled writing; Austin unique. This is it. Donations only. Phone (512) 569-4767.

465 MISCELLANEOUS

DATING Tango between the sheets Try FREE! Use code: 4829 Call 512-735-0000 TangoPersonals.com

HAIR CUTS Indie Rocker cuts ($25)and color($55+)call Ruth (512)913-0510 www.myspace.com/hairshortener

PERMANENT MAKEUP
Wake up with Makeup. Cosmetic tattooing for men & women. Natural looking lash enhancement, eyebrows, lip color. See http://www.pmubylauren.com or call 743-7234 for details.

NOTICES

510 ACTIVITIES

CO ED KICKBALL Sign up today at www.austinSSC.com. Also offering co-ed softball & flag football!!

FOOD & WINE Wine Tastings, Dinners & Cooking Classes: www.foodiehq.com

SKYDIVING Tandem Skydives! Smithville TX. www.skydivesmithville.com 512/965/JUMP, SKYDIVE SMITHVILLE!

515 CLASSES WORKSHOPS

JAPANESE LESSON Native 453-2226 Leave number. kazki.beatz@gmail.com

SPANISH Learn to speak Spanish. This ongoing course relies heavily on visual material, word association and games. http://www.creativelanguage-center.com 453-8680.

SPANISH
Someday, I'll Learn SPANISH!!??
No luck with traditional classes and workbooks? Hate Studying? Don't have much time? Think learning can't be fun? Use your whole brain by tapping into the extraordinary mental capacities we all have, but seldom use, with the most advanced and enjoyable teaching and learning method available today. 263-9944 * All Levels * Class Schedules, Fees and more at **http://www.RapidSpanish.com**

STRETCHING CLASSES Free Resistance Stretching www.flexiblestrength.org

525 EVENTS

TEXAS STATE PAGEANT
Texas Dream Girls USA State Pageant 2007 NOW taking applications for home town queens to represent your city, four age divisions,contact Sherry@ MissShar2027@aol.com or call 281-347-7282

530 GENERAL

ADOPTION PREGNANT? CONSIDERING ADOPTION? Talk with caring people specializing in matching birthmothers with families nationwide. EXPENSES PAID. Toll free 24/ 7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions 1-866-413-6293 (AAN CAN)

DONATIONS Please donate old cell phones & ink cartriges to Central TX SPCA, 909 S. Bagdad, Leander, Mon&Fri 3-7, Sat&Sun 12-5.

FLASHBACK MOVED
Flashback has moved to 1805 S. 1st due to evil landlord syndrome. Come support your local business!

WEBSITE natespot.com is up!

535 LOST & FOUND

LOST NECKLACE Disc-shaped tan and brown jasper on black cord. 512.569.6135

540 VOLUNTEERS

BUDDHIST WORKSTUDY
Prayer Wheels for World Peace: Berkeley,CA. Residential Work/study. room/board + stipend www.nyingma.org/PrayerWheels (510) 540-7639 bobr@nyingma.org

545 LEGAL NOTICES

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-06-002645

To: GERARDO RUIZ CORONADO and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 201ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE filed in said court on MAY 26, 2006 and said suit being number D-1-FM-06-002645 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF NANCY YVONNE CORONADO AND GERARDO RUIZ CORONADO".

The nature of said suit is a request to DISSOLVE the marriage of the parties and divide the estate of the parties in a manner that the court deems just and right.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree dissolving the marriage and providing for the division of property which will be binding upon you.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, July 20, 2006.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By: /s/ TINA GUTIERREZ, Deputy
REQUESTED BY: NANCY YVONNE CORONADO
1804 WEBBERVILLE RD
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78721
512-426-5649

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-GV-04-002839

To: GREGORIO JARAMILLO Defendant(s), in the hereinafter styled and numbered cause: YOU (AND EACH OF YOU) HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of Monday AUGUST 21, 2006, and answer the ORIGINAL NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND INTENDED FORFEITURE PURSUANT TO TEX. CODE OF CRIM PROC. CHAPTER 59 of Plaintiff(s), filed in the 403RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT of Travis County, Texas, on JULY 14, 2006, a default judgment may be taken against you. Said suit being number D-1-GV-04-002839, in which THE STATE OF TEXAS Plaintiff(s), and $2,630.00 U.S. CURRENCY; GREGORIO JARAMILLO Defendant(s), and the nature of which said suit is as follows:

ON OR ABOUT THE 11TH DAY OF AUGUST 2004, THE AUSTIN POLICE DEPARTMENT, LOCATED AT 715 E. 8TH STREET, AUSTIN, TEXAS, SEIZED THE ABOVE CONTRABAND, WHICH WAS USED OR INTENDED TO BE USED IN THE COMMISSION OF A FELONY PURSUANT TO ART. 59.01 OF TEX. CODE CRIM. PROC.

ALL OF WHICH MORE FULLY APPEARS FROM PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL NOTICE OF SEIZURE & INTENDED FORFEITURE PURSUANT TO TEX. CODE OF CRIM. PROC. CHAPTER 59 ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE, AND WHICH REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, July 14, 2006.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ Marchelle Dukes, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
ROBERT SMITH
P.O. BOX 1748
AUSTIN, TX 78767
(512)854-9400

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF JAMES F BIGGART JR, Deceased, No. 84998 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

JAMES F BIGGART, III alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 8th day of JUNE, 2006, an Application for Probate of Lost Will or in the Alternative, Application for Determination of Heirship & Issuance of Letters of Testamentary/Administration the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said JAMES F BIGGART JR Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 8th day of June, 2006.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR
County Clerk
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 1748
Austin, Texas 78767

By Deputy: /s/ Monica Limon

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF MARGIE DEDIE JOHNSON MATTHEWS, DECEASED, NO. 84838 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

BRENDA CAMPBELL, an alleged beneficiary in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 11th day of May, 2006, an Application to Probate Will Not Produced in Court as a Muniment of Title in the said estate and requests that the said Court issue citation to the heirs of the said MARGIE DEDIE JOHNSON MATTHEWS, Deceased, for the purpose of complying with SECTION 128(b) of the Texas Probate Code for the said Application. Said Application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 27th day of July, 2006.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR
County Clerk
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 1748
Austin, Texas 78767
By Deputy:/s/Marie Clark

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-06-003596

To: JUSTIN WILLIAMS

and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 345th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION TO TERMINATE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP AND FOR ADOPTION OF A CHILD of WILLIAM SIMMONS, JR. & WILLIE FAYE SIMMONS Petitioner(s), filed in said court on July 20, 2006, against JUSTIN WILLIAMS Respondent(s), and said suit being entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF WILLIAM QUINTON D'SHAWN SIMMONS, A CHILD", the nature of which suit is a request to terminate the parent-child relationship and for adoption.

The Name, Birth date, and Place of Birth of said is as follows:

WILLIAM QUINTON D'SHAWN SIMMONS, JANUARY 27, 2005 AUSTIN, TX

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, July 20, 2006.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ Michael M. Beatty, Deputy
REQUESTED BY: BRIAN BERNARD
1203 BAYLOR ST
AUSTIN, TX 78703
BUSINESS PHONE: (512)478-5291

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ERIC BERNARD KANE aka ERICH BERNARD KANE & ERIC B. KANE, Deceased, No. 85225 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

FRANK T. MATYAS, JR.

alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 20th day of JULY 2006, an Application for Letters of Dependent Administration and for Determination of Heirship, if necessary in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said ERIC BERNARD KANE aka ERICH BERNARD KANE and ERIC B. KANE, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 24th day of July, 2006.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR
County Clerk, Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 1748,
Austin, Texas 78767
By Deputy: /s/ Marie Clark

Graham Barnes Distilling, Bruce Graham, President, Daniel Barnes, Vice President, DBA Graham Barnes Distilling is Making Application with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for both a Distillers and Rectifier's Permit and a Private Carrier's Permit On the Address of 10109 McKalla Place Suite 9, Austin, Travis County, Texas.

LEGAL NOTICES
THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE accepts LEGAL NOTICES at the low rate of $21 per column inch.

Notarized affidavits of publication and audited circulation statements are provided upon request.

Call Jessica @ 512-454-5765 ext. 168 for more info.

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas abandoned vehicle motor act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

1)OWNER: JESSICA GOMEZ
1994 OLDSMOBILE CUTLASS
VIN: 1G3WH55M6RD376199
LP: T78BBG

2)OWNER: ABEL GARCIA
1981 CHEVROLET
VIN: 1GBGC34M5BZ117998
LP: 2BDB18

3)OWNER: KAREN ANDERSON
1994 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN
VIN: 1B4GH443XRX350434
LP: Z04GLK

4)OWNER: ALAN AQUIRRE
1987 NISSAN MAXIMA
VIN: JN1HU11S3HT210716
LP: V94GHZ

5)OWNER: LARRY DELANEY
1988 MERCEDES BENZ 300E
VIN: WDBEA26D7JA809837
LP: TXP40P

AUCTION: August 18, 2006 @ 6:00 AM
About Town Towing
2905 W. Howard Lane
Austin, TX 78728
(512) 835-5444

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES PURSUANT OF TEXAS ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ACT, THE FOLLOWING WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE UNLESS CHARGES ARE SATISFIED WITHIN 10 DAYS.

GARAGE KEEPER: SOUTHSIDE WRECKER, 4308 TERRY O LANE, AUSTIN, TX.

2006 EZGO GOLF CART 1029392
2006 GO CART NO VIN #

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas abandoned motor vehicle act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off by Central Towing, 7400 FM 969, Austin, TX 78724 unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

1993 Ford PK

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas abandoned vehicle motor act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

1)OWNER: ISMAEL CUEVAS
1991 CHEVROLET
VIN: 1GNDM19Z1MB151914
LP: T32SLZ

2)OWNER: SHANNON OBRIEN
1989 CHEVROLET
VIN: 1GNDM15Z1KB218952
LP: W18MMV

3)OWNER: REBECCA MCGUIRE
1991 GEO STORM
VIN: J81RF4364M7553000

4)OWNER: SHERRY GINGROW
1994 FORD EXPLORER
VIN: 1FMCU24X3RUB05556
LP: 1RPYF

5)OWNER: MICHAEL PARKS
1991 HONDA CIVIC
VIN: 1HGED3540ML073317
LP: B17FTB

6)OWNER: ROSA RIVERA
1988 HONDA PRELUDE
VIN: JHMBA424XJC048200
LP: TRF24K

AUCTION: August 11, 2006 @ 6:00 AM
About Town Towing
2905 W. Howard Lane
Austin, TX 78728
(512) 835-5444

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE
In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner's lien of the goods hereinafter described and stored at the Uncle Bob's Self Storage locations listed below; And, due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold at public auction at the following addresses to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of on the following dates. No one under 16 allowed. Cash Only.

Uncle Bob's #285
9717 US HWY 290 E
Austin, TX 78724
512-278-1220
Tuesday, August 15, 2006 @ 9:00 AM

#203 Lupe Gonzales - boxes, tools

#207 Joey Dukes - furniture, appliances, boxes, TV's and stereo equipment, landscaping equipment

#709 Emindenia Bolanos - nice misc. furniture, household items

Uncle Bob's #231
8227 North Lamar
Austin, TX 78753
(512) 833-0855
Tuesday, August 15, 2006 @ 10:00 AM

361 Freddie Jr Brown - household goods, furniture, boxes, tools, appliances, TV's or stereo equip., office equip., office machines

756 Billy Jack Phillips - household goods

903 Herbert Griffin - furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equip.

910 Andrew Coley - household goods, furniture, boxes, 945 Tim McCorkle - household goods, furniture, boxes, tools, appliances, TV's or stereo equip.

7743 Janie Harris - household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equipment

Uncle Bob's Self #197
5547 McNeil Drive
Austin, TX 78729
(512) 336-8390
Tuesday, August 15, 2006 @ 12 noon

430 Gina Twomey - furniture, boxes, tools, TV's or stereo equip.

1738 Rebecca Carmona - household goods, boxes

1762 Terry Molina - household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equip., office machines

Uncle Bob's #287
6509 South 1st Street
Austin, TX 78745
(512) 326-9696
Tuesday, August 15, 2006 @ 1:30 PM

114 Nelson Menendez - household goods, furniture, boxes, TV's or stereo equip.

301 Gordon Gentry - household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equip.

2241 Raymond Manriquez - household goods, furniture, boxes, TV's or stereo equip.

3304 Michael Condron - household goods, furniture, boxes, tools, TV's or stereo equip., office equip.

3330 Maria Villarreal - furniture, boxes, tools, appliances, construction equip.

NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC REGULATION Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, proposes the approval of the following traffic regulation:

All-Way Stop Regulations on Marly Way at Brookhurst Cove and at Brandon Way in Precinct Three.

Deletion of Regulation restricting right turn from Anderson Mill Road to Olson Drive, Spicewood Parkway, and Taterwood Drive in Precinct Three.

Revision of Reduced Speed School Zone Regulation on Brodie Lane to location further south on Brodie Lane in Precinct Three.

Any resident of Travis County, Texas, aggrieved by this proposed action may make written request for a mandatory public hearing. Such request must be addressed to the Transportation and Natural Resources Department, Travis County, Texas, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas, 78767, and must be received within seven (7) days of this notice.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS Shurgard Storage Centers wishing to avail themselves to the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, hereby gives notice of public sale under said Act to Wit; this sale will be held on **August 22, 2006 beginning at 10:00 am at the Shurgard Storage Center located at 9814 Westgate Blvd, Austin, Texas.** This sale will continue to each designated address listed below after the completion of each location sale. The property in the storage units at each location in the tenants' name is being sold to satisfy a Landlord's lien. The property contents of all storage units sold at this sale are purchased "AS IS", "WHERE IS" for CASH to the highest bidder. Shurgard Storage Centers reserves the right to refuse any bid or to cancel any public sale advertised. Announcements made the day of the sale take precedence over any printed materials. All spaces contain household furniture unless otherwise noted.

SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 9814 Westgate Blvd, Austin, TX 78748 (512)282-9990; Scott Kaliszewski.

SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 2121 IH 35 South, Austin, TX 78741 (512)693-9733; Jennifer Hodges, David Morrison, Tara Navarro, Terry Moreno, Colin Kelly.

SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 5220 US 290 West, Austin, TX 78735 (512)892-3037; James Gonzales.

SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 13675 N. Hwy. 183, Austin, TX 78750 (512)249-0085; Thomas Balli, Sheila Martinez, Meagan Moncrief.

SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 10001 N IH 35, Austin TX, 78753 (512)837-6516; Shante Sanders, Michael Jackson, Kaci Moore, Francisco Ginez, Robert Sykes.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

PS Texas Holdings, LTD., hereby gives notice that the property generally described below is being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien pursuant to chapter 59 of the Texas property code, at the time and place indicated below, and on the following terms: All property generally described below will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash, or credit cards, **NO CHECKS,** with payment to be made at the time of the sale. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any item or items from the sale. The property will be sold on the 17th of AUGUST, 2006 at each self-storage facility at which it is described below: NO CHILDREN PLEASE.

9:30 a.m. 17 AUGUST, 2006 Public Storage @ 10100 Nth IH-35, Austin, TX 78753

B054 MARGIE FARLEY, CHAIR, SUITCASE, BAGS

BANKRUPTCY / DIVORCE

Arboretum Plaza 1 • Suite 500 • 9442 Capital of Tx Hwy. N.

219-6844 • 800-219-6844

Chapter 7	$749 (fixed)
Divorce w/ waiver	$274 (fixed)
Divorce w/ childrem (uncontested)	$374 (fixed)
Chapter 13	NO MONEY DOWN

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www.flemingslaw.com
(NOT CERTIFIED BY THE TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION)

the COMMON LAW

by **Brandy Wingate** *and* **Luke Ellis**

The material in this column is for informational purposes only. It does not constitute, nor is it a substitute for, legal advice. For advice on your specific facts and circumstances, consult a licensed attorney.

PRIVACY RIGHTS AND SELLING PHOTOS

I was going through some stuff my child left in my attic, and I found a photo of a person as a teenager who is now very famous. Who owns the photo? I want sell it on eBay.

The answer to this question, as usual, is more complex than simply who owns the physical photograph. Obviously, there is an issue whether you or your child own the photo. The photographer may have rights as well: If the photo was professionally made, it may be copyrighted.

What I think you are really asking, however, is whether you can sell the photo without offending the famous person's right to privacy. Every day we hear another story about a Hollywood starlet angry over a paparazzo's new and outrageous methods for obtaining (and selling) photographs. In Texas, individuals enjoy privacy rights, two particular aspects of which are involved in your question.

The first involves an individual's right to prevent others from using his or her likeness or name to gain a commercial advantage. If a famous person's likeness has been used for commercial gain, that famous person can bring a lawsuit to recover for invasion of privacy. However, these lawsuits typically deal with situations where a famous person's photograph is used as an endorsement of a product. Fortunately for you, selling a picture of your child and a famous person just to get a little money is not likely to give rise to a claim for misappropriation of identity because presumably you are not trying to use the photograph as an endorsement of a product or to sell some other commercial item simply by associating the famous person with items you are selling.

However, the second type of privacy violation occurs when a person publicly discloses private facts about another that would be offensive to a reasonable person where the private facts are of no legitimate concern to the public. So, for example, if the picture included your child and the famous person in a compromising position that a reasonable person would do only behind closed doors, then you could have a problem.

Please submit column suggestions, questions, and comments to **thecommonlaw@austinchronicle.com**. Submission of potential topics does not create an attorney-client relationship, and any information submitted is subject to being included in future columns.

AV0817 POUND SALE

NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES IMPOUNDED BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 683.011 ET SEQ., TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, REGULATING THE IMPOUNDING AND SALE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES BY DELEGATE OR PERSONALLY.

THE PURCHASER SHALL TAKE TITLE TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL LIENS AND CLAIMS OF OWNERSHIP AND IS ENTITLED TO REGISTER THE PURCHASED MOTOR VEHICLE AND RECIEVE A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.

I WILL PROCEED TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REDEEMED BY THE OWNERS, THEREOF TO WIT;

AUGUST 17, 2006 @ 10:00 AM @ AUSTIN POLICE DEPT., 220 RALPH ABLANEDO, AUSTIN, TX 78748

061801071	1991	NISS	4DR	P27WSG	TX	JN1HJ01P0MT539091
061821877	1987	OLDS	4DR	WFL78G	TX	1G3HN5431HH308121
061951322	1985	HOND	4DR	LYT98N	TX	JHMAD7439FC109651
062020925	1988	BUIC	4DR	W78RHN	TX	1G4AH513XJ6410625
065035939	1993	PLYM	4DR	R51LFG	TX	1P3XA46K5PF565783
065035956	1994	ISUZ	LL	6MFX19	TX	4S2CG58E4R4322124
065036211	1997	NISS	4DR	P39DHK	TX	1N4AB41DXVC772928
065036226	1996	PLYM	2DR	ZGG30K	TX	1P3ES42C3TD724793
065036338	1990	JEEP	LL	N06GTW	TX	1J4FT58L5LL161535
065036340	1986	FORD	VN	7DFS99	TX	1FTDE14H8GHA92401
065036341	1969	GMC	PK	63CDL4	TX	CE10D1A15584
065036347	1985	VOLV	SW	L50MTD	TX	YV1AX8857F1630738
065036349	1985	CHEV	VN	P65W5D	TX	1G8EG25H2F7150892
065036350	1991	TOYT	4DR	G59JFW	TX	JT2EL43A6M0029705
065036351	1999	CHEV	2DR	D16BVY	TX	4C3AU52N4XE033467
065036354	2000	HYUN	4DR	H22DNH	TX	KMHCG45G5YU063603
065036355	1996	DODG	4DR	L51TPK	TX	1B3HD46F8TF162164
065036420	1994	DODG	LL	NPT04B	TX	2B6HB21X8RK122545
065037102	1992	MAZD	4DR	H17FPC	TX	1YVGD22BXN5200711
065037195	1988	CHEV	LL	05PMG1	TX	1GNCS18R4J8106204
065037196	1992	OLDS	4DR	P99RJY	TX	1G3AL54N9N6307251
065037197	1990	OLDS	4DR	B48GRK	TX	1G3HY53CXLH334878
065037200	1992	DODG	4DR	ZRR77V	TX	1B3XP48K7NN138640
065037202	1988	CHEV	PK	9BPX42	TX	1GCCS14R4J8223764
065037203	1990	GEO	SD	C23SKT	TX	1Y1SK7167LZ082996
065037205	1993	CHEV	4DR	7A9004C	AL	2G1WL54TXP1109771
065037212	1987	PORS	CP	V44WCJ	TX	WP0AA0946HN452833
065037213	1980	DATS	2DR	263DCN	TX	HGS130155630
065037215	1987	LINC	2DR	V28ZNZ	TX	1LNBM91F0HY701442
065037216	1999	JAY	CT	861P5W	TX	1UJBJ02PXX16J0475
065037219	1993	GEO	4DR	K96FKZ	TX	1Y1SK5369PZ014822
065037222	1984	TOYT	SD	T55JKC	TX	JT2AL32G1E0217631
065037224	1974	TERR	BT	9109XE	TX	DEM00045M74G
065037815	1995	MAZD	4DR	786LFH	GA	JM1TA2210S1102567
065038384	1976	OLDS	2DR	PKS47D	TX	3K57R6R158629
065038392	1986	MITS	PK	4SKW66	TX	JA7FP24D6GP083835
065038393	1988	CHEV	LL	J80MCW	TX	1GNCS18R2J8227250
065038463	1984	CHEV	PK	4XBJ35	TX	2GCGC24M8E1111177
065038465	1990	DODG	4DR	F90XFB	TX	1B3XP48K8LN269248
065038616	1990	ACUR	2DR	V90PRS	TX	JH4DA9342LS071841
065038619	1994	HOND	HB	K89MMC	TX	2HGEH2353RH501220
065038622	1995	PONT	CP	S51RWW	TX	1G2WJ12M1SF281954
065038680	1995	FORD	2DR	H31PYF	TX	1FASP11J8SW299020
065038690	1994	CHRY	4DR	5PYTJ	TX	2C3ED46F9RH642405
065038692	1995	NISS	PK	7DFS08	TX	1N6SD11S9SC314506
065038700	1997	FORD	PK	ZG1946	TX	1FTDX1721VKC91551
065038707	1992	CHEV	LL	3RPL48	TX	1GNFK16K3NJ303138
065038708	1988	HOND	2DR	W36MKC	TX	JHMED634XJS002192
065038709	1980	HMDE	UT	49YSLR	TX	NO VIN
065038905	1988	CHEV	4DR	V19NLK	TX	1G1LT5116JE623662

CONTINUED 545

LEGAL NOTICES

B086 TONY GLENN, SUITCASE, FURNITURE, TOTES

C118 VONNIE DIAMOND, DRESSER, TOTES, BOXES

D008 ANDY BROWNLEE, CLOTHES, STEREO, LAMP

D086 DEON HARRISON, CLOTHES, BAGS, TOTES

10:30 a.m. 17 AUGUST, 2006 Public Storage @ 937 Reinli, Austin, TX., 78751

225 MARK ABRAHAMS,

BOXES, CHAIR, GOLF CLUBS

228 BILLY SPIVEY, JR., BOXES, OFFICE CHAIR, TOTE

241 THE HOUSE OF REFUGE, DESK, CHAIRS, FILE CABINET

777 FLORINDA ESPARZA, DRESSER, WASHER, FAN

783 RHONDA SAULS, MICROWAVE, CHAIRS, TOTES

11:30 a.m. 17 AUGUST, 2006 Public Storage @ 8101 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753

102 SAM GARRETT, BOXES, SUITCASE

126 DOROTHY GRADY, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

140 KEITH BROWN, TIRES, SAW, CLOTHES

144 ADAN HERNANDEZ, BOXES, BAGS, TABLE

226 MARIA CEDILLO, TV, CHAIRS, BIKE

322 LISA GONZALES, TOTES, AMOUIRE, BIKE

540 ELSA VAUGHN, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

543 PAULA BROCK, TV, BIKE, DRESSER

550 DAVID YEARWOOD, DRESSER, VACUUM, LAMP

1144 BRENT HARRELSON, TV, FAN, BOXES

1410 TUNESIA WEBB, END TABLE, SOFA, TV

1422 KDI FACILITY SERVICES, CHAIRS, FILE CABINET, PARTITIONS

1506 BRIAN ALLEN, WAGON, SUITCASE, BOXES

N1262 JACINDA POWELL,

FUTON, DRESSER, TV

N2289 WALTER LOPEZ, SOFA BAR STOOL, BOXES

N2367 CATINA VILLANUEVA, BAR STOOL, VACUUM, STEREO

N3462 DENELL WILLIAMS, BIKE, SOFA, TV

N3525 IRVIN WILKERSON, DRESSER, FAN, TOTE

2139 MELINDA SIMMERS, SOFA, STEREO, TV

3063 PARRICIA EASLEY, LUGGAGE, TOTES, BAGS

3107 WANDA AUGUSTINE, BOXES

3120 GILBERT JOHNSON, MATTRESS, BOX SPRINGS, BAGS

3188 FRANK CARLOS, SOFA, LOVE SEAT, MATTRESS

2:00 p.m. 17 AUGUST, 2006 Public Storage @ 8525 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753

A038 DANRICKA PEREZ, BOXES, TOTES, FOOD

C019 GRACE JACKSON, LAMP, COFFEE TABLES, BOXES

E025 LEON OLVERA, BOXES, CLOTHING

G023 DONNIE JOHNSON, MATTRESS, BOX SPRING, CHAIR

G040 MOIPONE GAOBEPE, BAGS, SUITCASE, TOTES

H005 ANGIE FOLLIS, AMOUIRE, SOFA, LOVE SEAT

H017 JENNIFER BATCHELLOR, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

J026 EVERETT SWAIN, BOXES, PIANO, ROCKING HORSE

3:30 p.m. 17 AUGUST, 2006 Public Storage @ 8128 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753

D066 MELISSA KEYSER, MATTRESS, BOX SPRING, TABLE

D068 JIMMY VILLARREAL, STEREO, BOXES, TOTES

E011 JOANN FLORES, CLOTHING, TOTES, BOXES

F053 MONIQUE A. TOLIVER, SOFA, LOVE SEAT, CHAIRS

G027 LINDA REINA, A/C UNIT, BOXES, STOVE

G034 VICTOR FLORES JR., DRESSER, STEREO, TV

4:30 p.m. 17 AUGUST, 2006 Public Storage @ 9205 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 787

B026 NAOMI ROBINS, STEREO, BOXES, NIGHT STAND

D107 INDIRA HERNANDEZ, CHAIRS, MOWER, DRESSER

E010 SONIA ANAYA, GRILL, FAN, NOTES

5:00 p.m. 17 AUGUST, 2006 Public Storage @ 10931 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78759

B023 PATRICIA MOYNAHAN, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

B034 CESAR NAVARRO, PINGPONG TABLE, BOXES, SHOES

G025 RENATO CAMPRES, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

2304 RICK FRANCISCO, MATTRESS, BOX SPRING, CHAIR

6:00 p.m. 25 JULY, 2006 Public Storage @ 12915 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78750

A004 LISA WHITTINGTON, ALL

ITEMS IN UNIT

3047 DALE DELONY, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

3117 SUSAN VANDAMENT, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF FRANCES P. LOCHRIDGE, DECEASED.

Notice is hereby given that the original letters testamentary for the estate of Frances P. Lochridge, deceased, were issued on July 26th, 2006, in Cause No. 85160, which is being administered in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Lloyd P. Lochridge, Jr. and Patton G. Lochridge as independent co-executors. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law in care of the independent co-executors' attorney at the following address: Thomas O. Barton, McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, L.L.P., 919 Congress Avenue, Suite 1300, Austin, Texas 78701.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **MARGARET LEE HORB,** Deceased, were issued on July 26, 2006, under Docket No. 85128, pending in the PROBATE COURT NUMBER ONE Court of TRAVIS County, Texas, to RONNIE BURT PARKER.

Claims may be presented in

care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows:

Estate of Margaret Lee Horb, Deceased

c/o Wayne A. Langham, Attorney at Law

9501 N. Capital of Texas

Highway, Suite 102

Austin, Texas 78759-6606

All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated July 26, 2006.

s/WAYNE A. LANGHAM

Attorney for Applicant

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of ROBERT JOHNSON, Deceased, were issued on July 18, 2006, in Cause No. 85081, pending in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to: BETTY ANN PENICK, Independent Executor.

The residence of the Independent Executor is in Travis County, Texas; the post office address is:

BETTY ANN PENICK

c/o Michael G. Lockwood

Kiester, Lockwood & Babb, L.L.P.

611 West 14th St., Suite 100

Austin, Texas 78701

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 26th day of July, 2006.

KIESTER, LOCKWOOD & BABB, L.L.P.

Attorneys at Law

611 West 14th Street, Suite 100

Austin, Texas 78701

Telephone: (512) 477-5796

Telecopier: (512) 477-5821

By: /s/ Michael G. Lockwood

State Bar No. 12477900

ATTORNEY FOR THE ESTATE OF ROBERT JOHNSON, DECEASED

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of JB Hatcher, Deceased, were issued on July 7th, 2006, in Cause No. 84,881, pending in Travis County, Texas, to: Linda Carmin French

The notice to the Independent

Executor may be delivered at the following address:

c/o Barnes & Karisch, P.C.

Attorneys at Law

2901 Bee Caves Road,Box D

Austin, Texas 78746

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated the 25th day of July, 2006.

/s/ Jennifer R. Vaculik

Attorney for Independent Executor

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Jerry Childs Fugler, Deceased, were issues on July 26, 2006, in Cause No. 85,114, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas to: Jana Fugler Warden AKA Jana Fugler Grimes.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: **Richard Biel**

Attorney for Applicant

The Law Office of Richard Biel, P.C.

3445 Executive Center Drive, Suite 235

Austin, Texas 78731

DATED the 28th day of July, 2006.

/s/ Richard Biel, Attorney for Applicant

State Bar No.: 24012285

3445 Executive Center Drive, Suite 235

Austin, Texas 78731

Telephone: (512) 345-1944

Facsimile: (512) 345-1915

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Benedict R. Walske, Deceased, were issued on June 14, 2006, under Docket No. 84815, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to David Walske. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate,addressed as follows: Representative, Estate of Benedict R. Walske, Deceased

c/o J. Luke Dow, The Law Offices of J. Luke Dow, 111 Congress STE 1040, Austin, Texas 78701. All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated July 28, 2006.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Rose M. Cywar, Deceased, were issued on July 19, 2006, in Cause No. 84969, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas to Adam Walter Cywar, also know as Adam W. Cywar. Claims may be presented in care of the Attorney for the Estate, addressed as follows: Adam Walter Cywar, Executor of the Estate of Rose M. Cywar, Deceased, c/o Huey G. Long, Attorney, 7600 Burnet Rd., Suite 360, Austin, Texas 78757. All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated the 28th day of July, 2006, Huey G. Long, Attorney for the Estate.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO BIDDERS

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1.Protective Footwear, IFB B060307-LD

Opens: August 21, 2006 @ 2:00 p.m.

AN OPTIONAL PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 11, 2006 @ 10:00 A.M.

Bids should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Specifications can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Bidders should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payments may be made by check. The successful bidder shall be required to furnish a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO PROPOSERS

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1.Professional Drug and Alcohol Testing Services, RFS S060252-ML

Opens: August 21, 2006 @ 2:00 p.m.

AN OPTIONAL PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 10, 2006 @ 2:00 P.M.

Proposals should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Proposal Documents can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/ purchasing/solicitation.asp. Proposers should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payment may be made by check. The successful proponent shall be required to furnish a Payment Bond and a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO ENGINEERS

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that qualification statements will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1.Professional Engineering Services for the design of County-Wide Sidewalk and Hike and Bike Facility Improvements,

RFQ Q060304-JW

Opens: August 23, 2006 @ 2:00 p.m.

AN OPTIONAL PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 9, 2006

@ 9:30 A.M.

Qualifications statements should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Specifications can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp.

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE - (Legal Notice) On Wednesday, August 23, 2006, beginning at 12:00 p.m. in the Judges' Conference Room at the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe Street, Room 418, Austin, Texas, the District Judges of Travis County will hold a public hearing to appoint a county auditor for a two-year period and then discuss and set the amount of compensation of the county auditor and assistant auditors for the county budget year FY 2007 as well as discuss and then set the amount of compensation for official court reporters in the district courts.

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE STATE OF TEXAS

THE COUNTY OF TRAVIS

TO THOSE INDEBTED TO OR HOLDING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JESSE BENNETT MALONE, Deceased: The undersigned Independent Executor of the Estate of Jesse Bennett Malone, of Travis County, Texas, having been granted Letters Testamentary by the County Court of Travis County, Texas, in Probate Cause #85061 on the 26th day of July, 2006, hereby notifies all persons indebted to said Estate to make payment, and those having legal claims against said Estate to present them within the time prescribed by law at the address below. Dated this 26th day of July, 2006, Earline Booth Malone, Independent Executor of the Estate of Jesse Bennett Malone, Deceased, c/o MARILYN G. MILLER, Attorney at Law, P.O. Box 917, Dripping Springs, Texas 78620.

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topdollarspaid.com

CHEVROLET CAVALIER 2004 Auto, 2dr, Silver,PWL cruise control 512-497-2757

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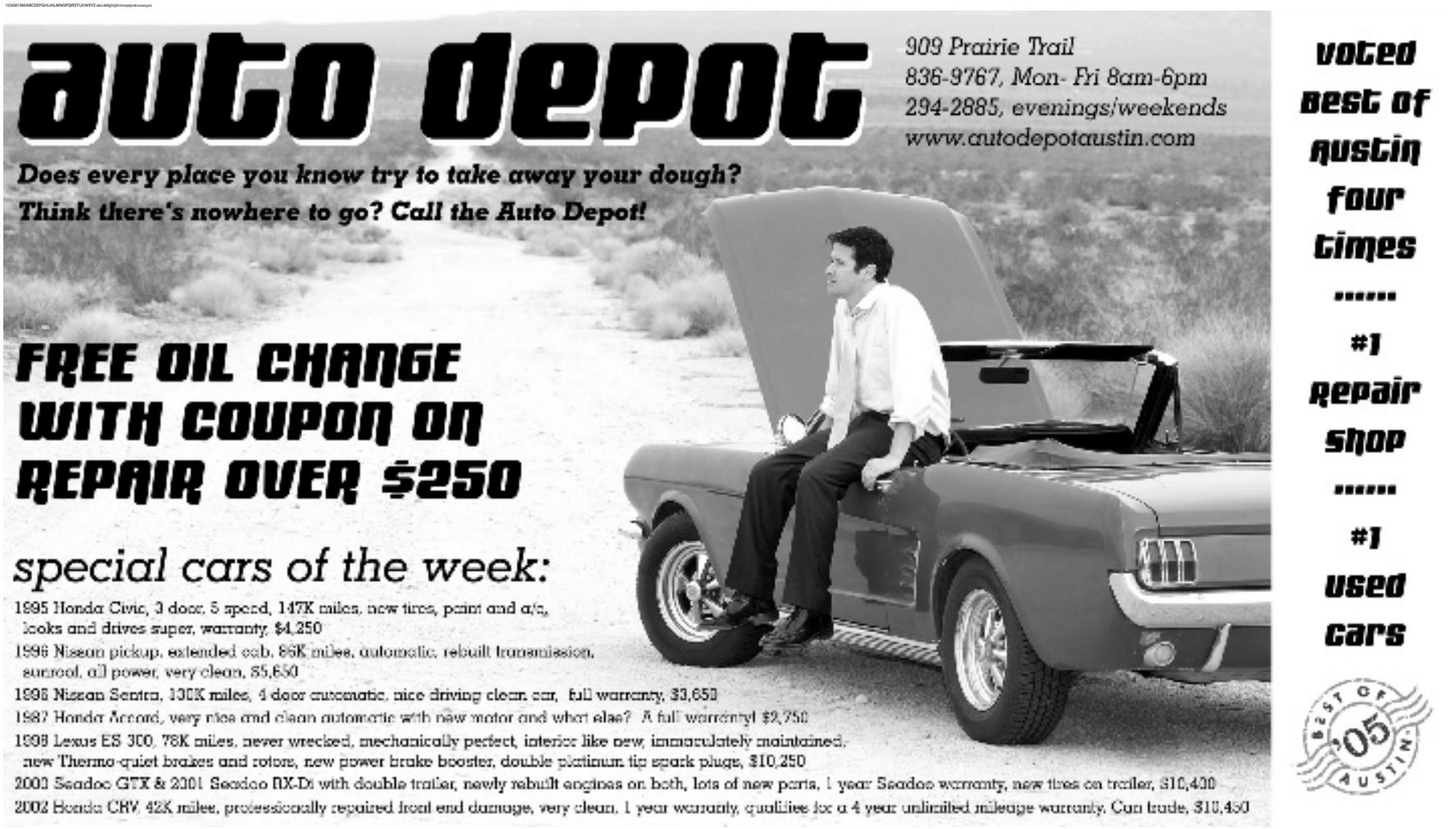
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GOOD TIMES.
I'm looking for an interesting person who is adventurous outside the dungeon. Engaging conversation and the ability to laugh and to not take themselves too seriously strongly desired. **Kaoskittn**, 26, 📷, **#118146**

SIN~SUAL DOMN8RIX
ME: VERY Sexy 27 SWF. You: 35-45 SWM-Submissive overly eager to please-and-PAMPER me. My rule is absolute and punishments are swift... However the rewards are incalculable. **MiStryss_WyND**, 27, 📷, **#116714**

SEEKING SWEET DADDY
28 yo professional black female. Looking for a professional white gentleman 35-50 to take on the role as my sweet daddy. Looking for mutally satisfying sexual relationship. Discretion a must. **curvy1**, 29, 📷, **#116196**

ROMANTIC NERD
I am a big nerd, I enjoy intellegent debate, gaming and a little romance. I love cuddling and long makeout sessions. I am always looking for new adventures in bed. **AmbyRhodes**, 18, 📷, **#115371**

LETS PLAY
Im a 35 year old ,BBW who is married with kids , who is looking for someone to play with on the side. Must be fun, single, and open minded. **Angel_Love71**, 34, 📷, **#101147**

INTERRACIAL SEX EXPLORERS
We're artist seeking females to share lust for life and play. We're easy-going, fun-loving, educated, sane. Looking for the interesting and adventurous. Conversation over cocktails welcome and encouraged. **ScorpionicSagittarian**, 46, 📷, **#117232**

YUMYUMPIE HOTHORNY
hot horny couple clean and clean shaved looking for adult fun and play. str8 male well ebdowed. bifemale looking for hot horny sexy couple austin texas please respond serious only. **yumyumpie**, 28, 📷, **#117230**

FREEWHEELING & BODACIOUS
married couple of 4 yrs. 2nd timers seeking lady between 20 and 35 for playful intimate encounter. she is curious and he is faithful. **turkeybutt**, 31, ☎, 📷, **#117144**

ADVENTUROUS, DISCRETE, FUN
Experienced couple that loves to play with adventurous couples . Select bi, single males and females welcome. We are very clean, DDF, and expect the same. We require extreme discretion. **kulcpl**, 37, ☎, 📷, **#116581**

THREE'S NOTTA CROWD
We are a very happily married 30-year-old couple that thoroughly enjoys sex. We are looking for a female (or couple) that is height ñweight proportionate (few extra pounds is good). **damonhunkins**, 30, 📷, **#116307**

SEXY COUPLE SEEKING
Happily married couple looking for fun in/outside bedroom with like-minded couples or bi-females. Would like to find special woman for long-term, mutually beneficial relationship. Fun-loving and fun-living. Go for it! **Wildpair4u**, 50, ☎, 📷, **#115673**

EROTIC CHAT
looking for someone to share my fantasies with and also interested in exploring yours. **discreetgirlie**, 24, ☎, **#117789**

FOUR SEASONS AFTERNOON
BiF seeks GF just for me. Be 24-40.. enjoy excess. I'm attractive professional, turned on by intelligence and subdued sexuality. Attracted to little athletic types: butch or femme. Please, no expectations. **Izzy11**, 31, ☎, **#117594**

HOT AND READY
About myself, black female with short brown hair, full figured professional attached. Looking for a very pretty full figured female also attached for discreet fun. **Hottie**, 35, ☎, **#115154**

CURIOUS, CLEAN, DISCRETE
I am interested in finding a couple looking for adventure and fun. Playing, etc. if we all are comfortable with each other. No drama wanted or needed. **stormyt**, 40, ☎, 📷, **#118028**

SEEKING VOYEUR-MINDED
Looking for a male to watch while I clean his home. Just sit back and enjoy the view while I clean your house while dressed in nothing but a speedo. **speedoman**, 28, ☎, 📷, **#117328**

OLDER MAN WANTED.
bimale is looking for older man to enjoy mutual sexual encounters, D/DF please, prefer top men but will consider all. Looking for long friendship type relationship.. **cwbymarc**, 44, ☎, **#116883**

ROCK N ROLLER
BI dudes wanted. Rock N Roll, swimming at my home , beer drinking . No drugs or std . Attractive 42 male. Evenings and weekends. Tired of hangin alone . **Badrocker**, 42, ☎, **#116804**

YOU'RE THE BOSS
Handsome, well endowed Hispanic seeks female or Couple to tell me what they want and how. Please be nice looking , sexy and for real like me. **Joey**, 38, ☎, **#118177**

E-MAIL FANTASIES
I am a classy, handsome gentleman who has written for a couple of hot adult magazines. Seek females or couples to chit chat then maybe get to meet in person. **Mikey**, 40, ☎, **#117987**

SINGLE SWINGER
This divorced swinger looking for other single swingers & couples for alternative relationship & serious playtime. Would love to find an uninhibited single full figured bi woman. **angelo**, 42, 📷, **#117915**

YOURBACKDOORMAN
Hello Ladies! Looking for some manlady lovin'. Must be discreet; one timer or repeat offenders welcome. Come one, come all! Sexually adventurous... I'm willing to please, if you're willing to tease. **TouchMeHere**, 24, 📷, **#117887**

LUVS FEET
I love womens feet.I like to have my toes sucked on as well.I'm bisexual and addicted to sex and all forms of nasty ways to get off. **N4CR**, 35, 📷, **#117688**

MIX AND MATCH
Just looking for like minded women to have fun with. **sldrta**, 22, 📷, **#118232**

BI-SEXUAL FANTASIES
Former Latino Hearthrob seeks sexy, pretty, feminine, Gay. Male or Female to Be-friend & have ocassional sexual fun with. Please be sweet, caring & for real like me. **Ricardo**, 39, ☎, **#117544**

ATTENTION SEXY COUPLES
This well endowed Latino Cutie Pie would like to be the 3rd person in your hot & naughty sexcapades.Please call me! **Miguel**, 40, ☎, **#117478**

NEW IN TOWN
New in town looking for discreet encounters. Looking for some men to teach me a few things, looking for women to teach me a few things. **newtoaustin**, 23, ☎, **#117270**

TS-LOVER
I am a simple guy with a desiring the touch of a shemale. I go both top and bottom, I enjoy giving and recieving, and fantasize for a TS/TV. **Seatommyboy**, 32, 📷, **#117184**

SEXY TS
iím a very sexy, very hot passable transsexual. iím 5í10î 145 pounds with sexy hormonally induced breasts. iím very classy, too, and dress very provocatively. iím 28 years old. **nicole_anais**, 29, 📷, **#115140**

AUSTINNEWCOMERLOOKING FORSEXYTOURGUIDE
New to Austin, but I already heard this is the place to find great fun! I'm looking for a sexy tour guide to teach me the LAY of the land. **neveraskme**, 21, ☎, 📷, **#118249**

LOOKING TO PLEASE
In a relationship and seeking a discrete encounter. well versed domination. will dowhatever it takes.pull hair, spank, and choke etc... **steve78705**, 27, 📷, **#118004**

TEX DOC
Easy going young Dr. that just arrived in town. Join me for a sunset lake cruise. Very open minded - willing to try anything. **tex_doc_2007**, 33, ☎, 📷, **#118001**

OPEN MINDED LOVER
I love to give as much as I receive. Very into sex, every aspect of it, our imaginations should be the only limit. I'm a great friend and good listener. **atarax**, 22, 📷, **#117861**

WELLHUNGLDYPLZR
sxy ladies lookn 4 discreet encounters wit pure plsr by a male that pleases n evryway go ahead n b curious it'll b worth the time promise..... **welhungldyplzr**, 26, 📷, **#117613**

MEDIC
I'm a Paramedic new to Austin and seem to be having trouble finding the ever elusive total package: a lady in the street but a freak in the bed... **sexymedic**, 27, ☎, 📷, **#117551**

WHO WANTS SOME
im just looking for any woman no matter what size color age i dont care, any woman, i just wanna have some fun, so please if your interested. **redasthesea**, 19, 📷, **#117512**

NEW IN TOWN
Recent re-transplant to Austin area, looking for some good (not-so-clean) fun with clean, attractive women or couples age 18-35. **shakespeare**, 30, 📷, **#117289**

SEXY WAR CRIMINAL
young, artsy, love life. looking for fun right now, not really anything to serious. but hey that doesn't rule out the possibility of making alot of interesting and great friends. **DrumNotDead**, 22, 📷, **#117476**

CALL ZARTAN MASTER!
You think you like it rough? That just means you haven't had Zartan. You will come to understand the meaning of exctasy through pain. Zartan excepts young supple women only! **Zartan**, 26, ☎, 📷, **#117333**

MORE-THAN-YOU-CAN-CHEW
bord with dating and would like to find some friends with the same interests. full of thunder. must have a good sence of humor and must be comfortable with your body. **heapinhandfull**, 21, 📷, **#117306**

TRAVELER DISCREETE DANDY
Clean guy which loves new adventures, out or in, open to new places, very discreete and safe, and loves to travel, a new place is just an excuse. **JohnDoe**, 27, 📷, **#117170**

YOUNG AND READY
Im a young guy looking for the thrill of a lifetime. I like all types of women. I am more than willing to experiment, so pretty much anything is ok. **Smokejaguar986**, 19, ☎, 📷, **#117125**

COME ON EVERYBODY
i am a 25 years old bi sexual, i am a tourist here at austin and i'm gonna be here for 3 months. very open minded and sexy. **judas_horse**, 25, 📷, **#117016**

DIRTY RAT BASTARD
I'm just trying to see what kind of weird situation I can get myself into. I'm a savage nautralist Darwinism inspired Gonzo writing rockstar. **99Problems**, 22, 📷, **#116954**

SEX SEEKER
I'm Just looking for a little fun just got out of relationship. Want someone who is as daring as I am. For the most part Age is just a Number!!!! **draco**, 23, 📷, **#116868**

LUST HUNGRY MAN
Always searching for a new trip, and interesting hot girls to get nasty with. I'm down for most anything. Love licking and biting. **kinkyluvtoy**, 25, 📷, **#116843**

HISPANICGUYNAUSTX
seeking discreet fems and cpls for sex and 3sums.please straight people only. **junkyardguy**, 26, 📷, **#116363**

ALWAYSREADY
Looking for all who love to put everything in the open, go with it , and try new things. Big Daddy will take care of you. **hotnhorny**, 31, 📷, **#116330**

MANDANGALO ROCKCOCK!!!
Been working out my muscles and want to use my new body in fun ways. Fun is all I am looking for. I want to do some cave man roleplay. **i_freaking_rock**, 21, ☎, 📷, **#115761**

AUSTINSIZZLE

MWF SEEKS SUMMER FLING

What's underneath your bed? The Liberator!

What is the freakiest place you've ever had sex in Austin? On Congress Avenue, at noon on a weekday, against a building...

read the rest of AUSTINSIZZLE's profile or enter your own profile for FREE online at austinchronicle.com/easystreet

THE LUV DOC

Bruce Robison • Sat., Aug. 5 • 10pm
The Broken Spoke • 3201 S. Lamar
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South Austin, Texas, is about the only place in the world where people have the chutzpah to go country dancing in sandals. Part of the reason is that it's hot down South … crazy hot, hot like flu breath, hot like a Harley muffler, hot like a hooker's crotch. But it's hot a lot of places and they still manage to throw together a respectably western ensemble. Just because the sun in Ft. Stockton could cook the skin off a napping lizard doesn't mean the locals are running down to the Wal-Mart to trade in their Tony Lamas and Wrangler cowboy cuts for Crocs and cargoes. There's an aesthetic to consider, traditions to uphold. You can't have a bunch of left-over-salmon stank hippies twirling around the dance floor in tie-dye and dreads butchering the sublime choreography of the sacred Texas two-step. That's just asking to rip a huge hole the fabric of the space-time continuum. South Austin, it would seem, is just such a wormhole, the kind of place, as David Allan Coe used to sing, "Where bikers stare at cowboys who're laughing at the hippies." Of course, unlike the Coe verse, in South Austin they all got high at the afterparty on some gay dude's ecstasy and made babies. In some places they would call that a clusterfuck, but Austin is a university town and so we call it evolution. The result of this crazy cultural miscegenation is that on any given evening you might see a cat who looks a lot like Jesus in Tevas (either the Christ or the one who sells flowers down on Sixth Street) kicking up dust (maybe toe-fungus spores?) at a honky-tonk with some Patsy Cline wannabe Circle C soccer mom on girls night out … and once the fog of cultural incongruity clears, you might find the answer to the question, "What would Jesus do-si-do to?" If it's this weekend, there's a good chance he'll be dancing to a member of the musical family Robison. Friday night Charlie and Li'l sis Robyn Ludwick will be teaming up at Threadgill's on Riverside, and Saturday night brother Bruce will be cutting loose at the Spoke. Whether by nurture or nature, all are great entertainers who will surely get your sandals scooting.

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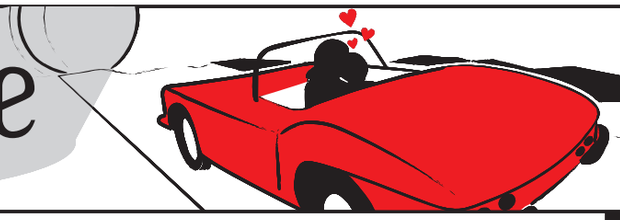
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women SEEKING men

TRUTH IN BEAUTY
I am a green eyed brunette, petite build, wicked sense of humor; I seek an intelligent, gorgeous man who can make me laugh. Sound good? Talk to me. **ChefChick**, 27, 📷, **#118194**

PRINT IS SCARY
You are not dreaming. I am not your fantasy. I am not the answer to your prayers. I am someone who can change your life. Can you change mine? **takeinlife**, 32, 📷, **#118247**

ITS HAMMOCK TIME...
I am enjoying summer, swimming, reading, playing water fetch with my dog and looking for some co-ed wit, sport and fun in my life. How about you? **summer_time**, 32, 📷, **#118204**

WAITING TO EXCEL
I am a funny person and I try as much as possible to be my self in all circumstances. I like reading no doubt but it has to be inspiring. **mimi**, 19, 📷, **#118199**

WHEN IN AUSTIN...
Moving to Austin in August, and can't wait to explore this awesome city! Care to join? I love learning, and I hope chivalry is not dead! Friends first, more later? **PostTenebrasLux**, 25, 📷, **#118145**

FREAKIN AWESOME!
Im simply looking for someone who will be themselves. I like to go to live music shows, love to hear some good deep house music and I love the outdoors. **gogoravah**, 27, ☎, 📷, **#116777**

SIMPLY STYLISH NERD
"We should be determined to live for something. May I suggest that it be creating joy for others, bringing hope to the lost and love to the lonely.î Leo Buscaglia. **ritani20**, 24, 📷, **#118092**

RELIABLE, RAZOR WIT
Sharp as a tack, seeking same. Prefers beer in pints or bottles. Video junkie with a cultivated sense of whimsy. Nice boys welcome to apply. **vintagehandbag**, 24, 📷, **#118079**

IM JUST ME
I wish i could find someone whos not surrounded by drama. Someone who wants the same as me... **whitneymaya**, 20, 📷, **#117882**

INDEPENDENT UPFRONT DIFFERENT
Beautiful, down to Earth chick who believes change is possible. Looking for a man secure in himself, what he wants, and takes action. Romantic at the right time! **NVAquarius**, 30, 📷, **#118051**

HIGH HEELS LIFESTYLE
I am a beautiful, funny, laid back, movie watching, fireworks shooting, shy at times chick. Looking for a smart, hot, strong guy ready to have fun. **cutiewithabooty**, 24, 📷, **#117893**

WAKE WITH ME
Time to find someone to smile with. To laugh with,camp with,look at fish with.Keep me inside when it's cold. take me out when it's warm.Make me laugh,don't be stupid.Nice to meet ya. **staramy**, 27, 📷, **#117762**

A SCATTERED MIND
I am in search of someone with a conscience but not an agenda...and a quirky soul that can appreciate mine. **chas**, 30, 📷, **#116654**

CUTE TEACHER
Sweet, friendly Elementary School teacher seeking Johnny Cash loving, David Sedaris reading, Two-step dancing man (33-45) who loves kids and the outdoors. **CuteTeacher**, 32, 📷, **#116136**

GOT TATS?
SWF 33 seeks SH/WM 25-35, (5"9+ please) Recently moved home to Austin. Looking for someone to help me find my way around town again! Nuno's, Antone's, Beverly's BRING IT ON! **Aradia**, 33, 📷, **#115414**

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MOSH ME UP
So, I'm a fun, outgoing person who loves to go to concerts, float the river, or just chill at home. I am very open-minded and I am up for anything. **fantasyana**, 25, 📷, **#117772**

HEHE;) NEWINTOWN
hello everyone, I'm looking for some friends to chill with and show me where all the hot spots are here Austin, I can't live without music and love watching movies,. **A_J**, 18, ☎, 📷, **#117751**

SPUNKY, INTELLIGENT, HAPPY
I'm a reader and runner. Attending grad school at UT next year. I'm outgoing, but appreciate quiet time when it comes. I love laughing, interesting people, and engaging conversation. **austingirl5**, 22, ☎, 📷, **#117743**

27YR OLD NAILBITER
i can play a mean tambourine. i'm a vegetarian. i like the movie annie hall. i also like the movie scenes from a marriage. i love dogs and bikes. **beth1979**, 27, 📷, **#117586**

IDON'THAVE2DOTHIS2GETGUYS
looking for intelligent/witty/dry/sarcastic, gentle/considerate romeo. must be creative, spontaneous,LOVE traveling, animals,& my fiestiness/playfulness. (no kids). must love outdoors & natural water-(don't try to fake it, you'll be miserable!). **missmajesty1**, 26, ☎, 📷, **#117432**

UNIQUE ATTRACTIVE WOMAN
I'm a young fun loving girl who is ready to be in a relationship with a guy who is truly genuine.I am a creative person who enjoys making art. **whosthatlady**, 18, 📷, **#115048**

SMART. SEXY. FUN.
One outgoing, fun-loving, modern girl. I love people, travel, the arts & variety.Routine will wittle away my smile. Learning is a charge. A smart man is a wicked turn on. **CurlySmart**, 33, ☎, 📷, **#114970**

men SEEKING women

HORSES FOR COURSES
I enjoy writing long winded diatribes about myself to pick people up through online dating sites, having nothing but sympathy for your hatred, and long walks on the beach. **Traeideez**, 21, 📷, **#118200**

BOY SEEKS GIRL
Nice boy seeks cute/artsy girl 18-21 to hang with. You:bright future, music lover, prefer skirts to jeans. Me: good head on my shoulders (I hope), ambitious, always looking to improve myself. **CosmicFlyer**, 19, 📷, **#118190**

CONFIDENT, SUCCESSFUL, FUN
Looking for that one woman, that seems so hard to find, educated, successful, independent, good looking, in shape, active. If your that person contact me. **Mudboy**, 36, 📷, **#118186**

NICE-GUY AND INTELLECTUAL...
I'm an open-minded intellectual who tends to be a little shy, buy I can be wild and crazy, too! Some of my passions: music, poker, food, and cats. **musicman80**, 26, 📷, **#118153**

NERD-CORE ECCENTRIC
I love to watch movies. That doesn't mean I don't love going out. I read a lot. I love graphic-novels, DJs, BBC series. I'm up for: Alamo Drafthouse, museums,drunken-putt-putt, Cooking. **mpython6**, 25, 📷, **#115107**

I DARE YOU
Not sure what I'm looking for but it could be someone reading this ad. I smell pretty. **1138**, 22, 📷, **#118147**

OPEN-MINDED, FUN-SPIRITED, DOG-PERSON
Me: Compassionate, independent, fun-spirited, open-minded, challenges authority, rejects structure, successful, for the under-dog, active in Austin community, social, supportive, dog-person, comfortable swimming against current if honoring values. Same for you? **Wannadance**, 35, ☎, 📷, **#118144**

WILLIE WAYLON ME
Fun loving, hard working, music lover looking for like minded individual. Barton Springs, running on town lake, eating Mexican are all good. Searching for motivated partner and friend. **AustinEric**, 38, 📷, **#118075**

BLACK HAZELEYED, MAN
generally regarded as intelligent. i find myself of average attractivness. have experienced far too much to be related in initial conversations. **cnj35**, 35, ☎, 📷, **#118119**

READY FOR LOVE!!
I'm a very loving, funny, and caring person. I'm in tune with life and i'm very focused on my career. I'm looking for a woman who is loyal and open!! **jamesbravo**, 22, ☎, 📷, **#118106**

LIVE FAST, DIE
19 years old film major. Just moved to Austin. Looking for someone laid back with good taste in culture (music, film, etc...). **nspotpictures**, 19, 📷, **#118083**

GOOD TIME BOY
I'm 6'0, 200 lbs intelligent and funny, looking for a lady with wit and charm for some casual dining and deep conversation. **captjsmith**, 35, 📷, **#118044**

APATHY'S LAST KISS
I am a progressive, original, idealist, altruistic, issue-oriented, charismatic, imaginative, generous, inspiring, open-minded, amiable, inventive, off-beat, but can be rebellious, eccentric,though tlessness, contrarian, aloof, uninvolved, obstinate,unconventional and impressionable type of guy. **zerobreeder**, 23, 📷, **#117970**

DRUMMER_MUSIC_LOVER_GIRLS!
I'm Marc. I'm a crazy guy. I'm looking for a girl who would support my drumming and really likes music. I want to be able to take my girl everywhere with me and have a good time. I like to spoil girls and make them feel enclosed with affection. I'm very affectionate and I know how to treat a girl. So if you want to have some fun, let me know. DrummeR90000 is for aim. **DrumeR90000**, 19, 📷, **#117925**

RUTHE1?
Seeking a young, intelligent, ambitious, open-minded, baggage free, attractive woman. **cdrivas75**, 31, 📷, **#118037**

SPANISH PISCES
full blooded spanish, very romantic, spontainous, passionate (about everything i do), adventuresome male. new to the area. i love to enjoy life, live music, greatfood, sports, outdoors,. **marius36**, 36, 📷, **#117957**

DEEP, RANDOM, OFF-THA-WALL
I just moved from the Dirty H-town. I'm a holistic thinker and love sarcasm. I love House music and am looking for a hip chick to enjoy Austin with. Peace! **househead**, 27, 📷, **#117936**

RENAISSANCE MAN
I am open minded, creative and entertaining. Can cook mean Chili Beans and prepare exotic Sushi. Looking for someone to chill indoors/outdors, Creative and drama free. **Chandengui**, 28, 📷, **#117931**

LAID BACK GUY
I cant say much so I'm laid back,outgoing,love to party,drink,meet new people,caring,listen to others,drive to the middles of to see where I end up , talk to you soon peace. **alex0184**, 21, 📷, **#117905**

SARCASTIC AND WITTY
I'm looking for somebody who doesn't take themselves too seriously and likes socializing at parties and pubs with friends. Must like to discuss movies and TV shows more than politics. **SlowPainter**, 27, 📷, **#117903**

MANOR FATHER LOOKING
Easygoing father of 3 children looking for that special person and see where it leads. I've been told that I look like Doug from the King of Queens sitcom. **RecentlySingleInManor**, 35, 📷, **#117863**

MY HEADLINE
I'm lonely,I enjoy the company of others.I love cars and art.I think Akira Kurosawa is a genius.I'm rather quiet and stay in a lot.I'm not tall,dark,handsome or rich.I love cats. **ninjarico**, 23, 📷, **#117853**

CURLY HAIRED FOO
I make you laugh. You should return the favor. **rustymac**, 32, 📷, **#117851**

OPENMINDED COMPASSIONATE INTELLECTUAL
I just moved here to star graduate school at UT. Looking for a professional/preprofessional career track woman who likes music, outdoors, and is openminded and compassionate. **Fermion82**, 23, 📷, **#117827**

QUIXOTIC DREAMER
Prone to fantastic flights of fancy free. Love music, movies, games, and cooking. Daring debates over salacious subjects. Honest, loyal, faithful, brave. Sometimes, I can even put together complete sentences. **EvilJorge**, 30, 📷, **#117809**

women SEEKING women

SHAMELESS SELF PROMOTION
Low-maintenance and eternally optimistic. I'm not a crazy party girl and enjoy relatively low-key nights. Looking for someone to enjoy the city and everything it has to offer. **somuchmorethanthis**, 22, 📷, **#118252**

GIRL NEED FEM
I need a friend/lover who i can trust,love,befriend and not feel like I am less than.If you are a woman just looking to be excepted.Nothing long-term.Lovers shortterm. **iamwhatiam**, 19, ☎, 📷, **#118209**

CREATIVE, CUTE, PEDANTIC
I'm a writer. I'm creative and passionate about everything I do. Funny and intense. An engaging introvert. I'm liberal, sometimes critical. I love labyrinthine conversations about philosophy, relationships, and life. **silvermuse**, 22, 📷, **#118036**

SWEET BOIDYKE
I have a passion for life...most living beings close to me included. I'm silly and don't take myself too seriously but do get my shit together when it's important. **ohboiohboi**, 20, ☎, 📷, **#117646**

men SEEKING men

COMPASSIONATE LOVING EXPLORING
I'm on this journey through life. I don't know where I'm going or where I'm supposed to be so I'm experiencing everything in third person. Come let's share experiences together! **nativeaustx**, 36, ☎, 📷, **#117606**

ISO S-DADDY
WM, 19, 5'9", 198, Br, Br. ISO S-DADDY to pamper, spoil and treat me. You won't be disappointed. **boytoy19**, 19, 📷, **#117212**

QUALITY4SAME
I think I'm a catch. Why am I still single? I'm a prof gl 32 yo wm 5'10", 160, 31w, slim build, brown hair/green eyes. I'm very laid-back and easy-going. **Quality4same**, 32, 📷, **#116316**

LOOKING FOR EINSTIEN/AFFLECK
Would like to meet a smart, geeky, cute, and sensative guy with a nice smile. Who is pretty laid back. For once would like to meet a great guy. **spyderboi1985**, 20, 📷, **#116165**

SoMuchMoreThanThis

A SHAMELESS SELF PROMOTION

If you could have a dinner party and invite any 4 people, dead or alive, who'd be coming? Josephine Bonaparte, Tonya Donelly, Ana Ahkmatova, and Stephen Colbert. Not sure how the conversation would go. Maybe I'd prefer to have dinner with each one of them individually.

What's under your bed? My cat. I just adopted a kitten and he won't come out from under my bed!

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SINGLE IN AUSTIN
Hopeless romantic, laid back, down to earth guy, interested in dating, new friendships, and more along the way. Iím looking for guys with good hearts, good head over their shoulders. **juan41381**, 25, 📷, **#115939**

JUST friends

CHICK TO CHILL
well i'm a out doors guys i like to play sports and work on cars. i love to make people laugh and feel atease. **rockclimber**, 20, 📷, **#117885**

LET'S BE FRIENDS
I was just looking for a roommate I like hardcore metal concerts exercise relaxing sin city and obscure art evenings unwinding with mellow music my best friend is a parrot. **contradictoriginal**, 24, ☎, 📷, **#118105**

LOTS OF FUN
I have many tattoos and piercings, total animal lover who isn't afraid to talk to anyone. Love good beer. If you like what you hear e-mail me. **wildchild**, 23, 📷, **#116743**

messages

OF COURSE I was right - i always have been. how can i get beyond it, if you won't even try to make it up to me? perhaps it is because i don't need to be saved?

ANN F FROM Iowa...Austin will be waiting! So will the men of TX. LauraB

I REMEMBERED YOUR birthday. Your distaste for me kept me from doing anything.

HORTON-I'M GIVING YOU all my car parts-Sweetpea

JIMMYBABY - I think of you everyday. I miss you, MR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY NOSKA
Chikatilo!

VICKI, I STILL love you so very much..up past the sky. Happy Birthday.

MR.PHOTOGRAPHER, BRYAN RODEO photos are the strongest ones yet.

K.- MY HONEYPOT will never run dry if you'll always be my pooh bear. - C.

THANK YOU FOR never taking that tone with me again. i appreciate it.

KIMSUE, I LOVE you. Your Jedi.

ANYTHING YOU CAN do i can do better

CAMPING, SKINNY DIPPING with crayfish. it was nice. i do miss you.

MEMORIES OF THE way we were. Angela I miss the way we were.

YOU'LL BE JUST as crazy there as you are here. Moving doesn't fix it.

CHIVO, I LOVE you so much! I can't wait to get back to Austin! Late Nights!

BOBBY~WEAR YOUR STETSON when i'm around. it drives me wild.

SKIPPY, I'D DO anything to see you smile. Dorito

LYDIA, I CAN'T wait to hang out when you get back to Austin!!! Hooray Netherlands.

CHARLIE BROWN, I will always be your Lucy. Thank you for keeping me safe!

N-LOVE YOU MORE than I know how to tell you. More than you already know~S

GOD IS TALKING to you. r u listening? yes, this means you.

a Shot in the Dark

STILL WAITING...
You're always at Town Lake, I'm right down the street. My dogs want to play, yours gets carsick. Dinner Thursday? **When: Tuesday, August 1. Where: Town Lake. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900876**

CRUSHING ON SDP
From our first handshake, to when I lost my glasses tubing, to the dollar I still owe you for getting me a red cup, oh goodness, my Captain! Call me. **When: Sunday, July 23. Where: Tubing Adventure in New Braunfels. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900875**

AUSTIN KARAOKE 8/18
You hated my high kicks but smiled at my split jumps. Total Eclipse of the Heart? **When: Friday, August 18. Where: On the Mic. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #900874**

COWBOYPSYCHIC -R-U-MINE?
Okay."it must be really nice to know that you're always right and everyone else is always wrong; no-it's not". Or "Jim, out of danger?" you-rock-cowboypsychic!!! bedazzzlin1;gotta do the oohay-thing baby! **When: Tuesday, August 1. Where: online-Lover's Lane!. You: Man. Me: Woman. ☎ #900873**

ALAMO LAKE CREEK
I saw John Tucker. You sold me my tickets. Me:Walking to movie You: Mopping, told me I wouldn't slip in converse. I was wearing Alkaline Trio shirt and red plaid pants. **When: Monday, July 31. Where: Alamo Draft House Lake Creek. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900871**

BARTON SPRING SATURDAY
At the entrance, you were with friends and you paid my way in. We spoke later, but not enough! I owe you a day at the pool. **When: Saturday, July 29. Where: Barton Springs. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900869**

DANCING WITH JASON!
Jason, we spent two nights dancing with each other but never gave our numbers to each other. I would love to find you. Where: 6th St. & Graham's. Email me **When: Saturday, July 29. Where: Graham's Central Station. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900868**

THE CROSSINGS
Crossings dining hall sunday 7/30 8:30ish, you pretty brunette held entry door as I exited, we smiled and exchanged brief pleasantry. Love how that felt. May I return the gesture? **When: Sunday, July 30. Where: Crossings dining hall. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900867**

BREATHLESS AT COSTCO
Gorgeous woman with wireless scanner stopped to say you were out of breath from running around. You took my breath away and I was speechless. Wanted to exchange numbers. Interested? **When: Sunday, July 23. Where: Costco North. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900865**

TEJANO AT ANTONES
you said you weren't comfortable with spinning and all that...and you tore it up girl. Let's get together for dinner and a drink and talk about hitting the floor again **When: Thursday, July 27. Where: antones. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900864**

LOOKING FOR DON
Looking for Don, CPA in Georgetown, Texas. divorced runner with 21yo daughter. met about 2mos ago at Ropers. **When: Friday, May 12. Where: Ropers. You: Man. Me: Woman. ☎ #900863**

BILLY'S BURGERS FRIDAY
Friday evening, you were with friends, we sat at your table, you had your dog with you. Me, the short haired guy with glasses. Couldn't take my eyes off you. **When: Friday, July 28. Where: Billy's Burgers. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #900862**

SOMETHING DIFFERENT
your sweet puppy licked my right hand the entire time, you said i was your first, and why the |=u(k couldn't i have been turning left? night-ride and swim sometime? **When: Friday, July 28. Where: she was happy. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900861**

BIRTHDAYGIRL @ LAPALAPA
7/24 You were there with the girls to celebrate and I didn't get a chance to give you your gift. It is all wrapped up and waiting! **When: Thursday, July 27. Where: La Palapa Bar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900860**

WESTGATE HOLLYWOOD VIDEO
Seen lookin thru comedies with those eyes. I'm a divorced emotional bully and dead-beat with 2 boys. Judge forced the Volvo onme. You're the answer to my relational bankruptcy? **When: Saturday, July 15. Where: Westgate Hollywood Video. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900859**

AWESOME MOM D&B
We traded glances at the D&B(Wed) while our children were trading in their tickets. You wore white shorts and top. It was lust at first sight for me. And you? **When: Wednesday, July 26. Where: Dave & Busters. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900858**

CARNIVAL BRASILEIRO CUTIE
Snapped a picture with you at Carnival. you: black wings, combat boots, bowtie. Me: corset, white wig, not much else. You're adorable! Perhaps you could help lace me up sometime? **When: Saturday, February 4. Where: Carnival Brasileiro. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900856**

HEB FAKE RING
We chatted in the HEB checkout line. You were wearing a fake wedding ring on the wrong finger (purposely). Me, dark hair blues. You are breath taking. **When: Wednesday, July 26. Where: HEB. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900855**

MEAN EYED CAT
I traded you a Dos XX (And a Stella) for the remainder of your Wasabi peanuts. Unfortunately I didn't get your name. Shall we trade again? **When: Wednesday, July 26. Where: Mean Eyed Cat. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #900854**

TALL DARK CURLY
You're a new hire at my co. Saw you during your orientation tour. You had the wickedest smile, great curls. Me - tatts. Look me up on phone web!!!! EIP. **When: Wednesday, July 26. Where: Guaranty Bank. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900853**

STUTTERING AT HEB
just after midnight, monday, july 24 at the HEB @ hancock. i tried getting out "you have a really nice smile", you had to ask me to repeat myself **When: Tuesday, July 25. Where: HEB. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #900852**

IKE OVE YOU
I can't remember when or why I told you I'd place this ad, but here it is!! I hope you enjoy reading it. I miss you. **When: Thursday, July 6. Where: Molotov Lounge. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #900851**

NAME WAS STACY
you came into my work last week and today. we talked about 964 numbers and butterfly tattoos. i thought maybe we could get together after your trip. **When: Monday, July 24. Where: downtown Austin. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900850**

RAINBOW RALPH
My shirt was amazing? Your eyes were amazing.It would look better on you. **When: Thursday, July 20. Where: convenience store on 51st. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #900846**

O GOLDEN SHEEN
Keele, HEB. More brilliant than a star at night.. More beautiful than a moonlit sky Was a maiden with shiney hair. And all I could do was stare. **When: Tuesday, July 18. Where: HEB, Oltorf/Congress. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #900849**

NADYA CEDAR ST
Friday 7/21 - I lost your number. Okay, I am absolutely incapable of programming my phone...stupid thing didn't store the number. So I'm hoping you still have my number. **When: Friday, July 21. Where: Cedar Street. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900848**

LOOKING 4 TRACY
Tracy.. OperatingRoom nurse in Austin/RR. We met at Grahams, Friday July 14th. You have a great smile.. we danced and I gave you my number... Hope you call tom **When: Friday, July 14. Where: Graham Central Starion. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900847**

ENGLISH BEAT STUBB'S
3rd grade teacher had wonderful conversation with on rock at Stubbs. Walked out with after the show. Got name. Regretting not getting number. **When: Monday, July 17. Where: Stubb's. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #900844**

THURSDAY, DOG PARK
You, Brittney, Me, Jason, We talked at Auditorium Shores while our boys went swimming, you had a incredible smile and I was hoping we could meet again. **When: Thursday, July 20. Where: Auditorium Shores. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900843**

CUTIE SHOPPING WHEATSVILLE
Deli area, Gorgeous blue eyed girl in flowing skirt. You had red grapes,I had green. Said you haden't showered since art show at Emo's the night before. Wanna go out? **When: Friday, June 30. Where: Wheatsville. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #900839**

PIERCED CUTIE-CVS
You came into my CVS. You: cutie with cool piercings and great smile. Me: photo guy complementing your lip pierceing. Want to get to know you, please come back. **When: Wednesday, July 19. Where: CVS. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900838**

WANNA NEW HOBBY?
I'm the blonde who asked youa questionin Hobby Lobby. I tried to do that "ask me for my number" thing with my eyes but failed miserably. I can do better. **When: Tuesday, July 18. Where: Hobby Lobby. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900837**

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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Brezsny for Aug. 4 - Aug. 10

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): "Sometimes it's not how good you are but how bad you want it," read the T-shirt of a guy buying a lottery ticket at the convenience store. While I don't think he was making the best use of that philosophy – playing a game of chance heavily weighted against his success – I do think it's a principle worth meditating on, especially for you right now, Leo. Your skill and understanding are certainly not irrelevant as you push to the next level of your quest, but they are less important than the intensity of your longing.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): "If you are going through hell, keep going," said Winston Churchill. Let that advice be your inspiration in the coming week, Virgo. But wait: Before you jump to conclusions about what I'm saying, know this: Your tests and trials will be far, far less hellish than the ordeals Churchill faced as he led England through World War II. It's true that you may feel a bit tortured in the heat of the moment, though. So don't you dare slow down to feel sorry for yourself or scream at the chaos-makers. Keep plodding forward, secure in my assurance that you'll cross the border and exit out of the infernal regions well before you're exhausted.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Elizabeth Bishop was determined to let each of her poems fully ripen before she published it. Rather than give her gifts to the world prematurely, she was willing to wait decades to make sure she had truly captured their diamond essence. I hope you're prepared to be as patient, Libra. You've been gestating a valuable labor of love, and it deserves to be blessed with the lavish totality of your careful attention before being unleashed.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): The Colorado state legislature tried to pass a law requiring public schools to put wholesome food in their vending machines. But the governor vetoed the bill, declaring that schools need the revenue from nutrient-free chips, sodas, and candy bars to finance their sports programs. Besides, he said, kids would much rather snack on junk food than the healthful fare. If you're faced with a similar choice this week – whether to do what's good for you or else indulge your vices and seek out meaningless experiences that provide no fulfillment – please go for the former option. The astrological omens suggest that this is a turning point, for better or worse, in your relationship with your bad habits.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): In 1993, my American friend Mark started playing music on the streets of Copenhagen. His parents regarded it as a tragedy. "This is what you do with the fine education we bought you?" they mourned. "What a waste!" grumbled his siblings and college friends. Mark was hurt, but didn't shrink from his mission, eventually expanding his open-air performances to Ireland and Holland. Thirteen years later, Mark has accumulated so much wealth from his gig that he has been able to buy homes in Ireland and Hawaii. Though he still busks part-time, he spends nine months of the year writing books. He's your patron saint in the coming weeks, Sagittarius. May he inspire you to follow your dreams no matter how much that bothers the people who think they own you.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): Are you a force of nature right now, or are you a freak of nature? I think the truth is that you're a freaky force of nature. You're just about as anomalous as it's possible for a Capricorn to get, and yet you've also got the equivalent of a thunderstorm's energy at your command. The funny thing is, the two factors are related. Your eccentricity is feeding your power, and vice versa. My advice is to refrain from questioning and worrying about this unusual state of affairs, and instead just capitalize on the odd advantages you have at your disposal.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): This is a favorable time for you to conjure up an imaginary friend who also happens to be a muse. You can pretend that he or she is perfectly real, just invisible. Or you can fantasize that he or she is a mostly buried part of you that you rarely express, or maybe your ideal of what a friend should be. I urge you to give this ally a name. Visualize his or her vivid personality and appearance in detail. See the world through his or her eyes. Have dialogues, exchange confidential information, hold hands, and soak up the balm of your tender communion.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): Some of the most gorgeous animals on the planet are also the most toxic to eat, writes Carol Kaesuk Yoon in *The New York Times*. Iridescent butterflies and fluorescent frogs are among the beauties that fit this description. Many are downright poisonous, and others are just plain foul-tasting. Keep that in mind as a helpful metaphor during the coming weeks, Pisces. Attractive people and enticing invitations may not always be what they seem. Sometimes they may be exactly what they seem, however, which is why it's so important for you to be exceedingly discriminating. Enjoy the view for a while and get a sense of what's beneath the surface before you taste them.

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): Reading this horoscope could not only stimulate waves of pleasurable endorphins in your brain, it may also fine-tune your immune system, increase your calorie-burning power, promote relaxation of the smooth muscles of the digestive tract, enlarge any part of your body you want to enlarge, and cut down the risk of heart disease, diabetes, and delusions about romance. To activate the potential health benefits contained herein, all you have to do is love everyone and everything with more compassionate ingenuity and playful zeal than you ever have before.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): Writing in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, columnist Jon Carroll told the story of educational activist Diane Mintz. When she began tutoring elementary school kids in the Bay area's poorest neighborhoods, she was shocked to realize how thoroughly poverty had shrunken their horizons. Many had never glimpsed the Golden Gate Bridge, a wonder of the world that's a few miles from their homes. Some didn't even know this marvel existed. "Their mental map of their larger community was pinched and drab," wrote Carroll. On occasion, those of us who aren't so destitute suffer from a similar diminishment. For example, I suspect that many of you Tauruses are in danger of letting your vistas dwindle right now. As a pre-emptive antidote, I suggest you make pilgrimages to beautiful people and intriguing sights and exhilarating places that blow your mind in the best ways.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): Ocean Dome is a huge indoor beach and water park on an island in Japan. Fabricated to create the ideal seaside conditions, it features artificial white sand and machine-generated waves that are high enough to surf. Air and water temperatures never waver from a comfortable range. There's an amusing irony about the place, though: Less than 1,000 feet away from its metal facade, there's an actual ocean and beach. Does this remind you of any situation in your own life, Gemini? It should. In my opinion, you'd get more enjoyment out of the real thing than the synthetic substitute.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): Thanks for being one of the 9.4 million readers who are making 2006 another record-breaking year for "Free Will Astrology." The number of people turning to this column for guidance and amusement continues to climb. My Google ranking among astrology sites on the Web is holding steady at sixth in the world. Recently I also received the coveted Nostradamus Lifetime Achievement Award for Prophecy and Divination. Should I therefore ask for more money from everyone who publishes my column? I've decided against that because – surprise! – I'm quite happy with how everything's going. You, on the other hand, should think about raising your rates. Those of us who are born under the sign of Cancer the Crab are in a phase when it makes sense to acknowledge our accomplishments and make sure we're being compensated properly for them.

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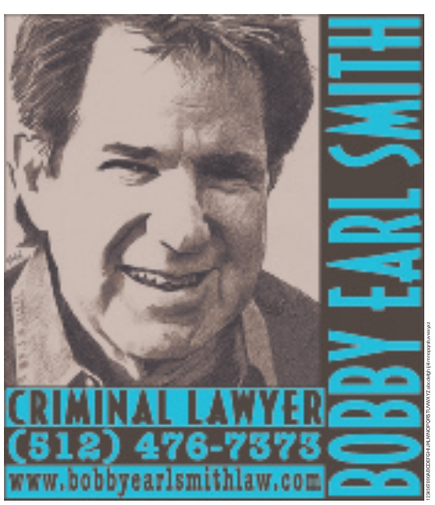
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